



CHAIR'S SUMMARY

CFS BUREAU MEETING

28 January 2011- 10.00 - 13.00 – German Room

Agenda (see list of attendees below)

The following agenda was agreed:

- 1) Proposed CFS 37 Agenda Items
 - a) Results from the CFS 36
 - b) Lessons learned from CFS 36 on format and process
- 2) Update from the Working Group Coordinators
- 3) Any other business
 - a) Expected contributions from the HLPE
 - b) CFS Communication Strategy

1) Proposed CFS 37 Agenda Items

A document outlining proposed agenda items for CFS 37 taking into account lessons learned from CFS 36 was presented.

The possibility of starting CFS 37 on Monday afternoon (17 October 2011) thereby linking it to World Food Day should be explored before the next Bureau Meeting.

The possibility of using the WFD as the inaugural ceremony or session of the CFS was also proposed for consideration.

It was agreed that CFS 37 should move towards concrete outcomes such as endorsing specific processes and taking decisions on critical issues.

Agreement was reached on a number of ways to restructure the proposed agenda by bearing the following in mind:

- The importance of global, regional and national developments and actions relevant to food security and nutrition, possibly linking these to a theme such as the role of private sector
- Reinforcing CFS as a platform for communication
- Making better use of decision boxes to help focus discussion and to facilitate the role of the drafting committee
- Addressing food price volatility and land tenure issues as priority policy topics with nutrition , biotech and trade as possibilities for additional forward looking topics or for future Sessions
- Allow sufficient time to wrap up policy round table and other debates held in parallel
- Avoiding too many parallel sessions and side/special events
- The importance of mapping food security and nutrition information
- According lower priority to CFS reform implementation issues, which should as far as possible be addressed before October and outside Plenary
- Linking HLPE reports to relevant agenda items rather than dealing with them separately.

Based on these comments, a revised version of the proposed agenda and draft timetable for CFS 37 will be drafted and circulated shortly.

Food price volatility as the topic for SOFI 2011 was discussed bearing in mind that it is the subject of analysis by a number of other bodies and organizations. The Secretariat pointed out that SOFI will be prepared taking into account other work done on price volatility and the comments of the Bureau. It will address how households cope with price volatility, and will estimate the impact of price volatility on global undernourishment. SOFI addresses a different audience than other work produced by FAO and other partners. .

2) Update from the WG Coordinators

a) Working Group on CFS Rules of Procedure

The WG Coordinator, Ibrahim Abu Atileh, presented the outcome of a WG meeting held on 17 December and he requested more Bureau participation in future meetings.

The CFS Rules of Procedure should be revised and approved by Plenary in October 2011. A number of desired changes have already been identified. Further comments have been sought on a pre-draft of the RoP and will be used to prepare a zero draft. Ways in which GRO XXXIII may have to be changed to accommodate new RoP can also be proposed.

It was agreed to postpone the deadline to submit comments until 14 February 2011.

b) Working Group on the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF)

The WG Coordinator, Renato Godinho, explained that the first step to develop the GSF involves finding agreement on the basic principles and purposes that will guide the Framework. A broadly participative electronic consultation has been launched to seek such views. It was decided to postpone the deadline for responses until 14 February 2011.

c) Working Group on the Voluntary Guidelines on Land Tenure

Greg Myers will coordinate the open ended Working Group on the Voluntary Guidelines: Land Tenure on the behalf of the USA. He will contribute to implementing the VG roadmap/preparation process as agreed by the Bureau. He will provide technical inputs as required while acting as a neutral Coordinator without engaging in the drafting of the VGs.

The preparation process, and review and finalization of the VG from 19-21/22 July, will be conducted along lines set out in the CFS Reform Document to ensure broad participation and transparency, while ensuring that decisions on the VG remain the prerogative of CFS Members. The Bureau will provide the WG Coordinator with guidelines for such a process.

d) Working Group on the Programme of Work and Budget (PWB)

The WG Coordinator, Hugo Verbist, reported that initial issues to be addressed were identified during a meeting held on 17 December and circulated to those present. Progress on these issues will be discussed at the next WG meeting to be convened preferably before the next FAO Finance Committee on 12 February.

e) Working Group on RAI-Principles

Hugo Verbist described consultations he has had so far, and requested that presentation of his proposal concerning a possible way forward for the RAI within CFS context, be postponed till the next Bureau meeting.

A number of queries and comments were raised, including:

- Who (international organizations, governments, others) owns the RAI, and what are the links between the various partners and efforts which aim to advocate/implement/refine/endorse the Principles?.
- A clear indication by the FAO, World Bank, IFAD and UNCTAD of the objectives and status of the RAI would be useful.
- Given the need to implement the RAI, this should not be constrained by any intergovernmental process to refine them or improve their credibility/ownership.

All interested parties are encouraged to submit their comments on the RAI to Hugo Verbist by 4 February 2011.

3) Any other business

- Expected contributions from the HLPE

The Secretariat presented the process that will be followed by the Steering Committee for the finalization of the studies on Price Volatility and Land Tenure. In consideration of the several studies that are being conducted on these two issues, it was clarified that the HLPE will collaborate with different organizations and institutions. In particular, the Steering Committee will provide inputs for the Draft Zero of the Voluntary Guidelines on Land Tenure. The members of the oversight group on Price Volatility will also participate, on personal basis, at the technical workshop organized by FAO. It was confirmed that the HLPE will not present complete reports at the CFS37 on Climate Change and Social Protection. Preliminary Term of Reference will be drafted and presented to the Plenary in October. A complete report on budgetary issues will be prepared and submitted to the attention of the WG on PWB.

- CFS Communication Strategy

The Secretariat presented a draft Communication Strategy which was well received.

Ways to improve the strategy were suggested such as introducing broad objectives early in the document, the need to better define focus groups including internal and external stake holders (including private sector), and the need to provide estimated costs for each activity together with an implementation roadmap.

A revised strategy will be submitted to the next Bureau meeting.

List of attendees:

CFS Bureau

Chair: Mr Noel De Luna; Ms Karima Boubekeur (Algeria); Mr Travis Power (Australia); Mr Hugo Verbist (Belgium); Mr Olyntho Viera (Brazil); Ms Fatma Hussein Saber (Egypt); Ms Ileana Rivera (Guatemala); Mr Kazumasa Shioya (Japan); Mr Ibrahim Abu Atileh (Jordan); Mr Azman Mohd Saad (Malaysia); Mr Vladimir Kuznetsov (Russian Federation); Ms Ertharin Cousin (USA).

Silent Observers

Ms Emily Collins (Australia); Mr Renato Godinho (Brazil); Ms Maria Larrea Loriente (European Union); Mr Claudio Miscia (Italy); Mr Katsumasa Miyauchi (Japan); Mr Franklin Moore (USA); Mr Michael Michener (USA).

CFS Secretariat

Mr Kostas Stamoulis; Mr Mark McGuire; Mr Vincent Gitz; Ms Cordelia Salter; Mr Ram Saravanamuttu; Ms Chiara Cirulli; Mr Julian Thomas; Mr Emilio Colonnelli; Ms Amira Muammar; Ms Rossella Fanelli; Ms Rosalud De La Rosa.