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Save the date:
7-8 October
CSM Forum
9-13 October
CFS 44
1. UPDATES ON CFS PROCESSES

CSM Contribution to the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau meeting of 3 May

Here you can find the CSM contributions to the meeting of the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau of 3 May. The outcomes of the subsequent Bureau meeting of 11 May are available here.

Updates on CFS Evaluation and calendar of the process

The CFS Bureau has nominated Jón Erlingur Jónasson (Iceland) and Khaled El Taweel (Egypt) to be co-facilitators for the preparation of the follow-up process to the CFS Evaluation that intends to draft a Plan of Action. At this link you can find the draft calendar for the process, including the roadmap drafted by the CFS Secretariat. The first two meetings took place on June 1st and 5th. On June 7th the CFS Advisory Group and Bureau meeting took place. Please find at this link the CSM contributions on Recommendations 1,2,3,5 and 6 of the CFS Evaluation.

CFS Chair letter and latest updates on the current food crises and famines

The CFS Chair has issued the letter addressed to all CFS stakeholders on the current food crises and impeding famines as one of the steps agreed by the extraordinary Bureau meeting of 12 April. Also read the CSM contribution on this matter during the last meeting of the Advisory Group and Bureau Meeting. You can also see the CFS Chair video message.

2nd HLPE Note on Critical and Emerging Issues

On April 27th the HLPE has published the 2nd HLPE Note on Critical and Emerging Issues. Unfortunately due to the current gap deficit that the CFS is experiencing, which also affects the budget of the HLPE, the note is currently available only in English. At this link you can find an overview of the process.

Updates on MYPOW

At the last MYPOW meeting of 2 May no consensus was reached on the topic for the HLPE Report of 2019. The first ranked proposal is the one submitted by the CSM “Agroecology for Food Security and Nutrition”, supported by the broad majority of the CFS members. The US and few other governments stated that this title was a “red line” for them and proposed to add innovative technologies in both the title and the scope. Therefore a first Friends of the Chair meeting took place on May 18 with the aim of achieving a consensus. Unfortunately again, no agreement could be on the title. Another Friends of the Chair meeting was held on Monday 5th of June which could reach a final consensus on the title, but not on the scope. The final discussion will take place on June19, during the next OEWG on MYPOW.

Updates on GSF – OEWG 10 May

The OEWG on the Global Strategic Framework meeting took place on May 10th. The objectives of the meeting were: a) the finalization of the periodic update of the GSF; b) the agreement on the related CFS 44 draft decision and; c) sharing views concerning the newly developed Online GSF and its dissemination. Please note that the result of the periodic update and the Online GSF are available in all languages at the following link. The CFS Outcomes of the meeting are also available.
**Updates on SDGs – OEWG 2 June**

The OEWG meeting on SDGs took place on 2 June to discuss: a) the draft outline of the submission that CFS would be proposing for the 2018 High Level Political Forum (HLPF) review under the theme “Transformation towards resilient and sustainable societies”, as well as to discuss the form which future CFS engagement in support of the SDGs will take in 2018-2019, to support the finalization of the MYPoW. Also find the CSM contribution to the Advisory Group and Bureau meeting of 3 May on the CFS submission to the HLPF of 2017 approved by the Bureau.

**Updates on Monitoring – OEWG 18 and 31 May**

The OEWG meeting on 18 May could finally agree on the sequence of the Global Thematic Events (GTEs): 2018 Right to Food Guidelines, 2020 Framework for Action on Protracted Crises, 2022 Principles for responsible agricultural investment. Please find all background documents for this meeting, including the CSM contributions, on the monitoring page of the CSM Website. Unfortunately, the OEWG meeting on 18 May got stuck again on another important issue, the question is about the future of the OEWG on monitoring itself. While a strong majority of participants, including particularly many African countries, Brazil, France, CSM and others strongly supported the continuation of the OEWG on monitoring, others were saying that we should first discuss the evaluation of the CFS. And others were completely against the continuation of the OEWG. An additional meeting was scheduled for 31 May, which unfortunately, again, ended without agreement. In this case, the proposed text of the decision box entailed the continuation of the OEWG on monitoring in 2018, particularly to oversee the preparation of the GTE in 2018, the further development of the innovative monitoring mechanism of the CFS, and the provision that the need and the role of the OEWG will be further discussed in the evaluation process. Most participants supported this proposal again, other more skeptical voices (particularly EU delegation) also agreed, but it was objected again by the US, this time with support from Egypt. Now, a smaller Friends of the Chair meeting under the lead of Germany will be held to find a solution.

**Updates on Nutrition – OEWG 1 June**

The OEWG on Nutrition took place on June 1st. The objective of the meeting was to discuss about options for the policy convergence process. The discussion was oriented by the following questions: 1) What kind of policy guidance would you see coming out of the process in the next biennium? (Policy recommendations based on HLPE recommendations? More substantial guidance?); 2) Which issue would benefit from CFS policy guidance? (Focus on added value of CFS); 3) What would be the best process, guaranteeing inclusiveness, preparation and value added, as well as (cost-)effectiveness and relevance in the framework of the ongoing Decade of Action on Nutrition? Should it involve consultations? At what level (regional? Global E-consultation?)? At what stage of the process? A first version of the submission to the MYPoW has been drafted, which was reviewed by the OEWG following the discussion on the options for policy convergence. The OEWG also touched upon the CFS 44 “Nutrition Day”, hearing updates from those involved in its organization, with the aim of being better prepared for it, including for its formal outcomes.

**Updates on the Women’s Empowerment Forum**

The Advisory Group and Bureau meeting of 3 May discussed the draft outline of the CFS Background Document on the Women’s Empowerment Forum and the format and agenda of the Forum itself that will take place on 25 September. Both the Agenda and the Background Document were adopted, including the proposal to have as a keynote speaker of the Forum a woman leader from the women’s grassroots organisations. Read the CSM contribution on this topic.
Updates on Urbanisation and Rural Transformation

The OEWG Chair on Urbanisation and Rural Transformation shared the English copy of the document “Addressing food security and nutrition in the context of changing rural-urban dynamics: experiences and effective policy approaches” (and annexes) prepared by the Technical Task Team following the global call on the FSN Forum (the language versions will be available from 2 June). The document will provide a compilation of selected experiences and policy approaches that identify some key messages relating to addressing food security and nutrition in the context of changing rural-urban dynamics. Besides informing CFS actors, the document also seeks to stimulate further discussions on governance, rural-urban linkages, sustainable food systems and the role CFS might play going forward. On this note, the OEWG Chair convened an informal consultation on Friday June 16 to start exchanging preliminary feedback both on the document and on the expected scope, objectives, outcomes and process for this workstream over the next biennium. This will allow to better prepare for the June 23 OEWG meeting and to consolidate inputs to the MYPoW 2018-19 process.

CFS Special inter-sessional event on Nutrition – 9 and 26 May

Please find the Chair Summary of the first CFS inter-sessional event on nutrition that took place on May 9. On May 26 the second inter-sessional event on “Impact Assessment of Policies for Healthy Food Environments and Healthy Diets” took place. At this link you can read the Chair Summary. Both summaries will be brought to the CFS 44 Plenary Session for information.

Updates on the Sustainable Forestry Process in the CFS

The launch of the HLPE Report on Sustainable Forestry for Food Security and Nutrition will take place on June 27th. Nevertheless due to the current budget deficit of the CFS, also affecting the HLPE, the translations of the report are not yet financially secured and therefore the Report will be launched only in English. During the last Bureau meeting of 11 May several CFS members expressed the concern of engaging into a negotiation process without having the HLPE report translated into the UN languages and therefore the CFS Chair after consulting with the membership on possible additional funding for the CFS called for an extraordinary meeting of the CFS Bureau on 24 May. A major part of the budget has been secured so far.

An additional Bureau meeting on June 7th agreed to have the policy convergence process still this year during September and October. More information will be circulated as soon as we receive the Bureau outcomes.

2. OTHER CSM ACTIVITIES

Call for CSM Side Events @CFS 44

Last year’s change to a new procedure to organize the CSM Side Events to the CFS Plenary found a quite positive feedback from participating organizations and the CSM Coordination Committee. It has helped to focus these side events on CSM priorities and to avoid competition among CSOs and frustration when the own proposal was not chosen.

So, the methodology will be again, that all interested organizations in the CSM are invited to join the preparation of a side event on one of the defined priority themes and to prepare together a side event proposal on this topic which needs to be submitted to CFS Secretariat by 30 June.

For the Side events in 2017, the CSM Coordination Committee identified five priority themes for CSM organized side events proposals this year (all these themes are working titles, the preparation groups will have to define the exact title for the event):
• Evaluation of CFS, and Civil Society proposals to strengthen the CFS
• The struggle for the rights of the Landless
• The ongoing Megamergers and their impact on food security and nutrition
• Famines, food crises, and the role and struggles of women in these situations
• Nutrition (the specific topic to be defined by the CSM Working Group on Nutrition in relation to the upcoming HLPE Report)

All CSM participating organizations are invited to contact the CSM Secretariat and to indicate to which of these side events they want to contribute. They will then be included in the list of the corresponding preparatory group. Please take note that all five CSM side event proposals must be submitted to the CFS Secretariat by 30 June. If you have questions, please contact the CSM Secretariat: cso4cfs@gmail.com

Open call of the CSM Forestry Working Group

All CSM participating organisations are invited to join the CSM working group on Sustainable Forestry. The Coordinators appointed by the Coordination Committee are Rodolfo Gonzalez Greco (CLOC/LVC), Jamal Al Talab (Land Research Center) and Edithruth Lukanga (WFF). To join the group please write to cso4cfs@gmail.com