Hunger, Food Security and Nutrition in the post-2015 Development Agenda

Informal Consultation with CFS Stakeholders convened by FAO and WFP

Rome, 11 February 2013

Background

As the target date for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) approaches, a number of processes have been put in place, both within and outside the United Nations system, to review the successes and failures of the global development framework as articulated through the MDGs, draw upon new ideas, identify emerging challenges and opportunities, and deliberate on appropriate priorities and approaches for a new Post-2015 Development Agenda.

This is a far-ranging process that is not limited to updating the MDGs framework or strengthening the commitment to sustainability as a follow-up to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. It also includes deep rethinking of essential concepts, such as development, social inclusion, and the relevance of basic human rights for fostering development. Another critical dimension of this process is a broad rethinking of the institutional architecture for sustainable development, particularly in response to a growing need to assure the relevance and flexibility of the development agenda for different regional contexts.

To facilitate the process of identifying potential priorities, steps have been taken by the UN Development Group (UNDG) to support up to 100 national dialogues, regional consultations and Global Thematic Consultations on eleven important themes:

- Inequalities; Population; Health; Education; Growth & Employment; Conflict & Fragility; Governance; Environmental Sustainability; Energy; Water and Sanitation; and Hunger, Food Security & Nutrition.

FAO and WFP are co-leading the Global Thematic Consultation on Hunger, Food Security and Nutrition, together with IFAD and Bioversity International, and with support of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Food Security and Nutrition. Contributing UN partners include: UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNIDO, UNDESA, and the World Bank.

The consultation process on the theme “Hunger, Food Security and Nutrition” runs from November 2012 until April 2013 and includes:

- Phase 1: an on-line consultation hosted by the Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Forum, and facilitated by a FAO-WFP technical team; above mentioned UN contributing agencies actively contributed to the discussion. The on-line discussion took place from 19/11/2012 to 10/1/2013.
- Phase 2: FAO and WFP convened informal consultation with the diverse stakeholders of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), on 11 February 2013 at FAO HQ; and
- Phase 3: a high-level consultation in Madrid on 4 April 2013, co-hosted by the Governments of Spain and Colombia.

The principle objective of the consultation process is to engage a wide range of stakeholders in articulating an initial set of priorities and venturing a first cut at a unifying vision. The outcome of the process will be submitted to the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons, who will be invited to respond to these ideas and suggest further steps for their development. All of these outcomes will be made available for wide dissemination, and will be drawn upon to prepare the Report of the Secretary-General to the UN General Assembly in September 2013.

Expected outcomes

The purpose of the informal consultation with CFS stakeholders (Phase 2) is to seek suggestions and inputs from CFS stakeholders on the key recommendations and issues
regarding hunger, food security and nutrition in the post 2015 development agenda. The expected outcomes of the event will include:

- The identification of key recommendations related to hunger, food security and nutrition in the post 2015 agenda context;
- A draft vision statement of no more than one paragraph.

**Structure and method**

The Informal Consultation will consist of two, three-hour sessions. The consultation will be co-chaired and moderated by FAO and WFP.

The morning session will include:

I. An introductory session conducted by the co-leads FAO and WFP. Selected speakers will provide a summary of key points emerging from the various stocktaking exercises that have been conducted, including an overview of the post-2015 development agenda process, with special reference to the Thematic consultation on Hunger, Food Security, and Nutrition; and, a forward-looking presentation summarizing elements that have emerged from the on-line consultation as well as major outcomes of relevant international fora and internationally agreed frameworks.

II. Remarks by CFS constituents – Representatives of the CFS Bureau and Advisory Group will comment on the key issues included in the issue paper sent to CFS stakeholders.

III. General discussion on the vision statement and on the key recommendations - Participants will be given the opportunity to comment.

The afternoon session will be divided into two parts, beginning with a short introduction outlining the objectives of the afternoon session and division of the group into breakout workgroups. The goal is to facilitate an open, unrehearsed exchange of views among smaller groups of participants. This will be followed by a plenary session in which work group rapporteurs will present the outcomes of each group’s deliberations.

IV. Work groups will be formed by lottery, each of which will include a cross-section of CFS stakeholders, to prepare a set of 4-5 key recommendations and draft a short, vision statement, drawing upon the issues and approaches emerging from the discussion in the morning session.

V. Work groups’ rapporteurs will report back to the plenary and moderators will attempt to guide the discussions toward shared understandings.

VI. Conclusion and outline of next steps by the co-leads

The consolidated key recommendations and vision statement will be used as a primary input to the high level consultation to be co-hosted by the Governments of Spain and Colombia in Madrid in early April 2013.