

Working of POSITION PAPER Approved by PSM Governing Council

PSM Position on the Composition of the Advisory Group

The private sector values the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) as a unique multi-stakeholder decision-making forum of global importance. The private sector believes that it has a strong role to play in translating CFS decisions into operations, in facilitating the impact of CFS products 'on the ground', and in finding synergies with other multilateral processes. While considering how to fill the newly freed seats of the Advisory Group, we ask that the CFS Bureau keep the following PSM guidance in mind:

1. The **PSM continues calls for parity of seats with the CSM** on the CFS Advisory Group, given the breadth of the private sector actors involved at CFS. Building on the important role of youth in the future of agriculture, PSM would be pleased to designate an additional seat to private sector youth and encourages civil society to consider doing the same with one of its seats.
2. The PSM also calls for the inclusion of two **farmer seats on the Advisory Group** to recognize the unique role of farmers in food security discussions. The PSM also calls for the inclusion of two farmer seats on the Advisory Group to recognize the unique role farmers play in food security discussions and **implementing solutions to end global hunger. Seat allotment would ideally recognize geographic representation, differences in agriculture approaches and the diversity of production.** Any change in seats on the Advisory Group should be inclusive though not unmanageable.
3. Outreach should be conducted to **support more vibrant participation from the science and technology sector.**
4. The PSM supports a diversity of actors at CFS. The PSM believes in the principle of self-organising and we emphasize the importance of encouraging all Advisory Group representatives to have **modalities to enable larger participation in a transparent manner.**
5. Lastly, the PSM believes a look to the **HLPE is also relevant to the current discussion; including the composition of the Ad hoc Technical Selection Committee in charge of recommending members to the HLPE Steering Committee.** The PSM would like to highlight that there is no participant from the private sector on the Ad Hoc Technical Selection Committee, as per Rule V of the Rules of Procedures of CFS, an inequity created before PSM was formed:
"The members of the Steering Committee shall be appointed by the Bureau of the Committee on the basis of a recommendation of an ad hoc technical selection committee consisting of representatives of FAO, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, Bioversity International and a representative of civil society organizations".

Private sector employs scientists, funds research and yet is excluded from participation. **PSM seeks to be included on the technical selection committee.**