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**Brief for Parties**  
**Recommendations on food security & climate change**

**This document has been prepared jointly by ACF, CARE-France, CCFD-Terre Solidaire, CIDSE, Réseau Climat & Développement, Secours Catholique Caritas France**

Currently, 795 million people are suffering from hunger and more than 180 million children affected by undernutrition. The fifth IPCC report (high confidence) stresses that behind its impacts on the level of food production (availability), climate change will impact all the other pillars of food security (access, utilization, and temporality).

*Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. The four pillars of food security are availability, access, utilization and stability. (CFS 2012/39/4) Thus, there are examples where food production was raised but did not lead to an increase of food security as a whole or even led to an increase of food insecurity.*

**What will be the impact of climate change on food security?**

- By 2080, 600 million additional people could be at risk of hunger because of climate change.<sup>1</sup>
- With a +2°C global average temperature increase - the most optimistic projected warming scenario - the rate of undernourishment in the Sub-Saharan African population will increase by 25-90% by 2050 relative to today.<sup>1</sup>
- By 2050, the decline in calorie availability will increase child malnutrition by 20 percent relative to a world with no climate change. Climate change will eliminate much of the improvement in child malnourishment levels that would occur with no climate change.

**What could be the impact of climate mitigation/adaptation actions on food security?**

Climate actions and policies, especially mitigation ones, could have dramatic effects on the food security of vulnerable people. This is the reason why the mention of “safeguarding” *food security* should be reinforced in the ADP text.

Different climate mechanisms (as REDD+ and CDM) have had negatives effects on food security, like construction of dams in the past years. In addition, new ideas like inclusion of land-use and setting a “net-zero emissions” target for the agreement could also lead to land-use grabbing and thus threatening the food security and rights of vulnerable people.

**Thus making sure that the importance of guaranteeing food security is recognized in the text is crucial** On the top of this, developing strong social and environmental safeguards when designing and implementing this activities and policies will be necessary.

## PREAMBLE

The mention of food security should be maintained in the preamble section as it sends a strong signal, from the beginning of the text, on the fact that **“ensuring food security” is more broader than “increasing food production”**.

“Food production” is already mentioned twice in the Preamble (p. 1 and 2), while referring to Article 2 of the Convention. We propose to preserve those, and add other clear references to food security within this section.

**Option 2 / Preamble (line 12) - page 3: PRESERVE:** *“Recognizing the special characteristics of land use systems, including the **importance of food security**, the diversity of global land management systems, and the need to manage multiple sustainability objectives, may require particular consideration within actions under this agreement.”*

We also propose the following addition:

Page 4 - [Reaffirming that responses to climate change should be coordinated with social and economic development in an integrated manner with a view to avoiding adverse impacts on the latter, taking into full account the legitimate priority needs of [developing countries][Parties not included annex X] and their right to equitable access to sustainable development and to achieve **food security**, economic growth and eradicate poverty,]

## GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The content of the section “General objectives” is binding, and applicable to all sections unlike the content of the preamble. **Consequently, clear references should be made to “food security” in this section to make sure that all climate actions & policies that will be implemented thanks to the agreement would not have negative impacts on food security.**

For now, there is only one mention of food related issues in this section (Option 2 of paragraph 5) through a reference to Article 2 of the Convention mentioning the need “not to threaten food production” We believe that a sole mention of food production is not enough and we propose to insert “food security” in the favored option.

- **Option 1 – General Objective (I 16) – page 5: INSERT** [**Option 1:** All Parties to strive to achieve low greenhouse gas climate-resilient economies and societies, on the basis of equity and in accordance with their historical responsibilities, common but differentiated responsibilities / evolving common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in order to achieve sustainable development, poverty eradication, **[insert: food security]** and prosperity for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind, taking fully into account the historical responsibility of [developed country Parties][Parties included in annex X] and their leadership in combating climate change and the adverse effects thereof, and bearing in mind that economic and social development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of [developing country Parties [and the

Parties included in Annex I undergoing the process of transition to a market economy]]][Parties not included in annex X].

**We believe that in this context the mention of Human Right in this section should also be preserved.**

**Paragraph 15 –page 8: PRESERVE** : “Parties shall, in all climate change related actions, respect, protect, promote and fulfill human rights for all.”

## ADAPTATION

Adaptation is a priority for developing countries and in particular for those who have a high rate of food insecurity. Consequently, we support the inclusion of a **long term goal (Article 50) for adaptation that does explicitly refer to food security.**

Food security is already mentioned in the **article 50, option 1 and option 10 (g).**

50. [**Option 1**: All Parties, in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention, its Article 4 and their common but differentiated responsibilities and previous decisions of the Conference of the Parties (COP), to commit to cooperate to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change, ensure resilience and protect citizens and ecosystems in the context of the long-term temperature limit and to achieve sustainable development [in the context of poverty reduction and **maintaining food security**], while recognizing the local, national and transboundary dimensions of adaptation:

**Option 10**: All Parties in accordance with the principles and provisions of the Convention and their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities agree on a long-term vision on adaptation, based on: g. Developing country needs for building resilience of the most vulnerable, linked to pockets of poverty, livelihoods and **food security** in developing countries;

**RECOMMENDATIONS TO PARTIES: As the text is being streamlined we need to preserve the mention to “ensuring food security” in the available options. It could mean adding it in new “merged” options.**

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Read our Call [“Feed climate Talks”, May 2015](#)

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**Contacts: ACF: Claire EVEN:** [ceven@actioncontrelafaim.org](mailto:ceven@actioncontrelafaim.org)

**CARE-France: Aurelie CEINOS:** [ceinos.carefrance@gmail.com](mailto:ceinos.carefrance@gmail.com)

**CCFD-Terre Solidaire : Maureen JORAND :** [jm.jorand@ccfd-terresolidaire.org](mailto:jm.jorand@ccfd-terresolidaire.org)

**CIDSE : Francois Delvaux :** [Delvaux@cidse.org](mailto:Delvaux@cidse.org)

**RCD : Ali Abdou Bonguere :** [bonguere@yahoo.fr](mailto:bonguere@yahoo.fr)

**Secours Catholique Caritas France : Jean VETTRAINO :** [jean.vettraino@secours-catholique.org](mailto:jean.vettraino@secours-catholique.org)