

## **Second Meeting of the High-Level Task Force of the Global Food Security Crisis 28 May 2008**

The second meeting of the High-Level Task Force (HLTF) took place in New York on 28 May 2008 under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General.

Discussions during the meeting focused the Comprehensive Framework for Action (CFA) and preparations for the FAO 'High-Level Conference on Food Security, Climate Change and Bio-energy' to be held in Rome from 3 to 5 June 2008.

The Secretary-General noted in his opening remarks that the High-Level Meeting of the ECOSOC on the global food crisis (20-22 May) clearly showed that member States had high expectations of the HLTF and the Rome Conference.

HLTF Coordinator John Holmes reported on the progress made in drafting the CFA and its salient content elements, namely a menu of outcomes and related actions to meet both immediate and longer-term needs. He indicated that the CFA was intended to serve as a coherent, coordinated, and comprehensive approach bringing together existing thinking and policies.

Mr. Holmes also reported on the outreach activities undertaken during the preparation of the CFA by the Food Policy Support Team, including briefings to members States, NGOs and the private sector.

The HLTF recognized the importance of sharing the results of its work on the CFA with participants to the Rome Conference and decided to circulate 'Elements of the CFA' in the form of a draft that will be completed at a later stage, on the understanding that the CFA will continue to be a process rather than a document.

On the Rome High-Level Conference, HLTF Vice Chairman and FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf briefed on the preparations of the event, including progress in the negotiations on the final outcome declaration.

The Secretary-General updated the HLTF on the preparations of the high-level working dinner with Heads of State and Government, senior Government officials and heads of agencies and organizations members of the HLTF, that he will co-host with the Italian Prime Minister on 3 June on the occasion of the Rome Conference. He indicated that a press communiqué will be issued following the working dinner.

The Secretary-General stressed the importance of the FAO High-Level Conference and other upcoming events, including the G-8 Summit in July and the General Assembly's High-Level Event on the MDGs in September, to display the ability to confront global challenges effectively and in a coherent way.

The Secretary-General proposed another HLTF meeting soon after Rome Conference concludes to review the Conference outcome and discuss next steps and strategies.