



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition • FSN Forum

TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSIONS

15.05.2023 – 23.06.2023 and 31.10.2023 – 17.12.2023

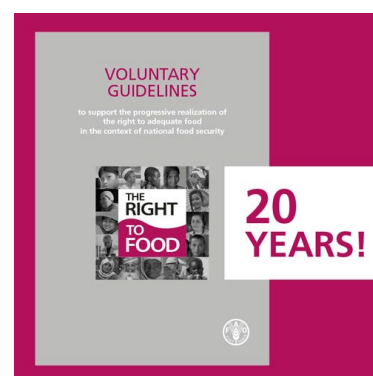
➤ <https://www.fao.org/fsnforum/call-submissions/20th-anniversary-right-food-guidelines>

20th anniversary of the Right to Food Guidelines – Call for inputs on the realization of the Human Right to Adequate Food

Template for submissions

Please use this **submission template** to share your experience on the realization of the human right to adequate food, including in the use and application of the [Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security \(RTFG\)](#).

The Call for Submissions is open until 17 December 2023.



For the necessary background and guidance, please refer to the topic note and other relevant documents available the Call [webpage](#). Please keep the length of submissions limited to 1,000 words.

You can upload the completed form [online](#) or, alternatively, send it to fsn-moderator@fao.org.

Submissions can be made in any of the UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish). You can add links or attachments with case studies or additional information to your contribution.

Template for submissions

Title of your submission	Taking a human-rights- and rule-of-law-based approach to achieving the food-related SDGs
Geographical coverage	This submission is intended to be applicable to global guidance; we have made similar submissions to our national government in connection with the Universal Periodic Review.
Country(ies)/ Region(s) covered by your submission	Global
Contact person	Name: Bill Jeffery, BA, LLB, Executive Director and General Legal Counsel Organization: Centre for Health Science and Law Email address: BillJeffery@HealthScienceAndLaw.ca
Affiliation	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> UN organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Civil Society / NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Private Sector <input type="checkbox"/> Academia <input type="checkbox"/> Donor <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)
Awareness of the Right to Food Guidelines and CFS policy agreements	<p><i>How did you become aware of the Right to Food Guidelines (e.g., CFS meeting or event, other UN Organizations, internet, colleagues, government, civil society organization)?</i></p> <p><i>Have you taken any actions to make the Right to Food Guidelines known to your colleagues, partners or other stakeholders?</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><i>If yes, please explain:</i></p> <p>We have begun to research to explore aspects of public international law related to the rights to food and health, including these concepts in other domestic law reform advocacy materials. We have and exploring possible mechanisms for leveraging immediately (not progressively) justiciable rights in Canada with or without implementing legislation, for instance, by asserting the a constitutional requirement to quantify the lost lives and DALYs attributable to suboptimal nutrition and other aspects of socio-economic inequality.</p>

	<p><i>What would you recommend to Member States, UN Agencies and /or other stakeholders to make the Right to Food Guidelines more widely known? Please explain:</i></p> <p>National government must launch national consultations to fully implement the rights to food, water, health, and a healthy environment and the building block laws and policies to realize those rights—such as nutrition-sensitive agriculture and the fulfilling the right to know about product risks and benefits—the abuse and violations of which severely impair health, productivity and the despair of populations that fuels poverty and conflict. See, especially <u>Articles 11 (right to food), and Article 12 (right to health) of the <i>International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</i>.</u></p> <p>The object of “progressive realization” has come to mean “weak realization” and “never full realization.”</p> <p>A rights-based approach means ensuring the duty-bearers, within national borders or abroad respect the rights of natural citizens to health and nutrition. Countries rich and poor, North and South should support the efforts of the United Nations Human Rights Council’s <u>Open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights</u> and support the efforts of the United Nations Human Rights Council’s <u>Working Group on the Right to Development</u> efforts to negotiate encourage their efforts to negotiate a <u>Convention on the Right to Development and both recognize and stress the importance of nutrition, food security and disease prevention in the elaboration of legally binding instrument.</u></p> <p>Consumer rights are, by definition, human rights in relation to business entities as illustrated by the UN Human Rights Council Committee on the Rights of the Child <u>General Comment No. 16 (esp. section VI.A.2)</u> and in relation to its <u>Concluding Observations on Canada in June 2022 (esp. para 16).</u></p>
<p>Use of the Right to Food Guidelines</p>	<p><i>Have you/ your government/ or any multistakeholder group you are representing in this form used the Right to Food Guidelines?</i></p> <p>I have scanned approximately 22 FAO guidelines, handbooks, curriculum materials, and other right-to-food reports to help inform our perspective on the status and international context of this right for possible use in academic research or litigation.</p> <p>I also considered this material in preparing the following submission: Taking a human-rights- and rule-of-law-based approach to achieving the SDGs United Nations <u>Our Common Agenda</u> in aid of the mid-term review and achievement of the 2030 sustainable Development Goals at the Summit of the Future in Sept 2024 which is available at: http://healthscienceandlaw.ca/wp-</p>

	<p>content/uploads/2024/01/CentreForHealthScienceAndLaw.December2023.SDG-CommonAgenda.submission_of_inputs_sotf.pdf</p> <p><i>At what level were the Guidelines used? - Sub-national, national, regional or/and global?</i></p> <p><i>For what purpose were the Guidelines used?</i></p> <p><i>Some examples: training; awareness raising; capacity development; development/assessment of projects, national strategies, plans of action, legislative or policy framework; investments by national governments or international financial institutions in favor of smallholders and/ or other vulnerable groups; formulation and implementation of specific national strategies for sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition; other.</i></p>
<p>Have your say where it matters!</p>	<p><i>The FAO Right to Food Team and the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) invite stakeholders to: Urge their governments to launch national consultation on the means by which the right to food could be implemented domestically. This is not a similar right that can always be declared by the courts or by governments by a naked declaration that the right exists. In many cases, realizing the right necessitates, for only a few examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• implementing school food programs,</i> <i>• changing food labelling regulations,</i> <i>• instituting incentives and regulations to ensure nutrition-sensitive agriculture,</i> <i>• ensuring conflict of interest safeguards in law- and policy-making,</i> <i>• realigning food taxes and subsidies with nutrition objectives,</i> <i>• setting mandatory limits on sodium and trans fat in processed foods;</i> <i>• mandating locally relevant health warnings on alcohol and foods of poor nutrition,</i> <i>• publishing personal food-based daily dietary guidance in a format that is also meaningful for making annual family garden planting, preserving and storage decisions and weekly food purchasing decisions.</i> <p><i>Such public policies may be guaranteed and inspired by the rights to food and health, but their contours and complexities require public consultation and creativity that cannot always spontaneously flow from the mere asserts of these rights by governments or public interest advocates in courts of law.</i></p>
<p>(i) Experiences and good practices</p>	<p><i>(i) Share your experiences and good practices on the realization of the right to food for everyone, always:</i></p>

(ii) Gaps, constraints and challenges	<i>(ii) Identify any gaps, constraints and challenges encountered in realizing the right to food or in implementing the Right to Food Guidelines:</i>
(iii) Lessons learned and suggested recommendations	<i>(iii) Share any lessons learned and suggest recommendations for improvement in realizing the right to adequate food:</i>
(iv) Concrete plans	<i>(iv) Next steps: are there any concrete plans to (further) use and apply the Right to Food Guidelines?</i>
Link(s) to specific references	<p><i>Please include attachment(s) or add here link(s) to documents with specific references (e.g., laws, decrees, regulations, programs, etc.) on how the Right to Food Guidelines have been used or applied by you/your organization.</i></p> <p>Presently, there is no domestically justiciable general right to food in Canada. Caselaw concerning the right to health in section 7 of the <i>Charter of Rights and Freedoms</i> to the “right to life, liberty and security of the person” is underdeveloped, partly because the Supreme Court mistakenly believed the it would arise organically and spontaneously since the brough right came into being in 1982 with the new <i>Charter</i>.</p>
Link(s) to additional information	<p>Submission to the Government of Canada concerning its Universal Periodic Review: http://healthscienceandlaw.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/CHSL-Canada-UniversalPeriodicReview.Dec14-2023.pdf</p>