

Dear CFS Secretariat,

Please find Canada's brief comments on the *Draft Zero of the CFS inputs to the 2021 High Level Political Forum (HLPF)*.

- #4 - *Strengthen and coordinate policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic impact on food systems and food security and nutrition, including at the international level*
 - There is a recommendation related to “Recognize the role of the CFS as a lead body in coordinating an international governance response to the impact of COVID-19 on FSN.” We think that this recommendation is not very helpful if it does not provide details or an illustrative example of what a “governance response” looks like, as well as specific tangible examples of actions that a member state or other actor can do.
 - Related to the recommendation for the CFS to lead a task force to track the food security impacts of COVID-19: the CFS may not have the full skillset, capacity or tools to provide a high quality monitoring of the food security impacts of COVID-19. We think the creation of a new task force should be done with consideration of all the other food security and agriculture monitoring tools and systems that exist. Canada strongly encourages some rationalisation and coherence among all the different food security monitoring systems and cautions the CFS creating another layer that may not make overall food security monitoring better, cheaper or faster.
- #3 and #5 - *Provide better protections for countries that depend on food imports and Support more diverse and resilient distribution systems, including shorter supply chains and territorial markets*
 - These two items could be understood as being mutually exclusive, as giving a preference to shorter supply chains could amount to trade barriers, which would impact accessibility for food-deficit countries. We think CFS guidance should always take into account differing local context in order to adapt to local supply chain and export/import considerations.