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Patrick Caron
HLPE Chairperson

Thank you Mr Chair, I will be short indeed.

Given the background that you reminded to us, our preferred option would be to deliver a full report on a thematic issue and I will come back on that. And particularly in link with the Critical and Emerging Issues Note that was discussed here last year. But we would, of course, be very happy to deliver the CFS request as it was formulated, particularly 10 years after the Reform, and to provide a global looking-forward narrative based on all the analyses that have been achieved previously.

Well, on top of this commentary, as a result of the recent evaluation process, the CFS is considering to engage in a four-year Multi-Year Programme of Work, and as you remembered, I was honored to present last year on behalf of the HLPE, our 2nd HLPE note on “*Critical and Emerging Issues for Food Security and Nutrition*” with the view to fuel the longer-term strategy and reflection in CFS.

This note was not only the result of extensive and transdisciplinary discussions within the HLPE Steering Committee, but also an inclusive process of consultation. The HLPE organized an open online enquiry directed to the scientific community, as well as to the diversity of knowledge networks and knowledge holders. It also contacted proactively around 180 knowledge institutions around the world.

The HLPE also co-organized with partner universities 3 conferences (in New York, USA; Stuttgart in Germany; Montpellier in France) at different steps of the process to exchange directly with stakeholders, coming from the public and the private sectors, from civil society and from the academia.

The 174 issues that were raised during this inclusive process were classified and reorganized in six broad thematic clusters:

1. Climate change and natural resource management
2. Nutrition and health
3. Food chains
4. Social issues
5. Governance
6. Knowledge and technology

These issues were mapped against the SDGs and against the four dimensions of food security and nutrition.

From this very rich material (there were over 900 pages of contributions), and based on its own knowledge and experience, considering the topics already covered by previous HLPE reports, the Steering Committee highlighted 9 burning critical and emerging issues that, according to us, would deserve more attention from CFS in the near future. Well, I know that 2 of these issues were instrumental in the discussions that led to the CFS request of a report on “*Agroecological approaches and other innovations*” to be presented next year. These 2 issues were:

1. (#8) From technology promises towards knowledge for food security and nutrition; and
2. (#5) Agroecology for food security and nutrition in a context of uncertainty of change.

This list – the 9 – does not claim to be exhaustive, nor to completely reflect the richness and diversity of the inputs that we received. However, I’m confident that this evidence-based HLPE contribution can be helpful for your future discussions.

I will here not go through the 9 issues, not just because of time, but because they were presented last year. But I would be very happy to reply any question, if necessary.

Thank you very much for your attention and of course, I feel very honored on behalf of the HLPE Steering Committee that such contribution can fuel the strategic thinking.

Thank you Mr Chair.