

CFS 47 – Canada’s intervention

Agenda item II – 2020 HLPE report *Building a Global Narrative towards 2030*

- We thank the HLPE for its comprehensive report and for the clear presentation today.
- Canada supports using a food systems approach to improve how domestic policy and development assistance empowers women, strengthens food security, addresses complex environmental challenges such as climate change, contributes to livelihoods, and supports inclusive economic growth.
- Our first-ever *Food Policy* for Canada, launched in 2019 following extensive multi-stakeholder consultations, provides a roadmap to end hunger, promote good health, cut food waste and encourage sustainable food systems.
- We recognize the importance of strengthening conceptual thinking around food security and sustainable food systems frameworks and appreciate the vital contributions of the 2020 HLPE Report in this regard.
- Canada welcomes the Report’s proposed update of the concept of food security to include agency and sustainability as key dimensions.
 - The addition of the concept of agency demonstrates the importance of issues like inclusion, participatory processes and women’s empowerment to the realization of food security. As powerful agents of change within the agricultural sector, women can actively contribute to improving food security, advancing economic development, and mitigating the effects of climate change. We look forward to the development of the *CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender and Women’s Empowerment* based on the terms of reference to be adopted later this week.
 - We applaud the introduction of sustainability, recognizing the importance of climate change mitigation and adaptation as well as protection of ecological systems including biodiversity as integral dimensions of long-term food security, alongside the economic and social pillars.
- We are interested to see the outputs of the Scientific Group of the UN Food Systems Summit as another opportunity to support coalescence of the international community around concepts, terminology and frameworks for sustainable food systems. Canada sees the 2020 HLPE Report as an important contribution to robust scientific thinking within the UN FSS process.
- We also support the recognition in the HLPE Report of the complexity of food systems and that solutions must be context-specific as part of critical policy shifts.
- We concur with points made by other delegations on the importance of international trade and of data for resilient and sustainable food systems.