

Mr Chair,

We are pleased to inform you that we fully align ourselves with the statement delivered on behalf of the EU and its 27 Member States.

We welcome the HLPE's report 'Food security and nutrition: building a global narrative towards 2030', highlighting that transformation of food systems is urgent and indispensable. The COVID-19 pandemic has further aggravated the situation underlining the need for transforming food systems and make them sustainable and resilient to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We agree with the HLPE that we should implement policies to achieve SDG2 along with all other SDGs, since they are strongly interlinked.

We support the priority given to sustainable agricultural approaches such as agroecology, and wish to highlight the potential role of family farmers in the process of sustainable transformation. In this regard, we welcome the UN Decade of Family Farming and all activities organized in the framework of the UNDFP.

We can all agree that measures to properly address hunger and all forms of malnutrition should be based on science and evidence-based policy recommendations. Evidence and neutral science should include an overall assessment of all food systems, including assessment of all positive and negative externalities, particularly the hidden costs, as we could see it in the SOFI 2020 Report. This True Cost Accounting can and should be the basis of policy incentives guiding the decisions of all stakeholders.

We appreciate HLPE's uniquely inclusive and multidisciplinary approach, which makes it highly relevant to tackle issues such as poverty, inequalities, gender, youth, environment, climate and biodiversity.

The UN Food Systems Summit represents a momentum and a huge opportunity to transform food systems, making them sustainable and resilient.

The HLPE's reports are key insights for the FSS and has the potential to play a central role in the preparations and follow-up actions of the Summit. We encourage the FSS Secretariat and in particular the FSS Science Group to better rely on the widely recognised expertise of HLPE and the voluntary guidelines and policy recommendations of the CFS.

Thank you, Mr Chair