

Thailand's intervention to Committee on World Food Security (CFS47)
Item 4b: ToR GEWE
8 – 11 February 2021

Thank you, Mr. Chair

Thailand expresses appreciation for the work of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on **Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment** and acknowledges the effective leadership of the Co-Chairs.

We recognize the importance of gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment for sustainable development, given their central roles in nutrition of family and household, and in agriculture.

In this regard, we would like to offer two comments:

First: we need to take into due account the specificities of each cultural contexts.

Societal gender norms are deeply embedded in culture and are, therefore, very difficult to change or override. In order to facilitate transition to gender-equal societies, due consideration should be given to the rationale and history of gender societal norms as well as to what are the triggers of gender discrimination in different cultural contexts. This would also facilitate **the development of a 'Theory of Change' and 'Way forward' towards Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.**

Second: the financial aspects.

We think that the estimated budget of \$700,000 to finalize the process should be reformulated to take into account **the 'new normal'** of virtual meetings, and related opportunity of consistent savings.

With this statement, Thailand endorses the Terms of Reference for CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition.

Thank you Mr. Chair and over