(Delivered Statement - FINAL)

Statement of Thailand for the 47th Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS47) 8-11 February 2021

Agenda item 5: The CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSyN)

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson

- Thailand congratulates the Chair, Ambassador Hoogeveen, and the CFS Secretariat Team for their continued engagement and effort in leading these negotiations. Thailand would like to thank all Members for their strong contributions and the successful conclusion of these negotiations.
- We believe that these Voluntary Guidelines provide meaningful guidance for attaining food security and nutrition and are an important input for the preparation of the upcoming UN Food Systems Summit.
- Thailand is engaged to end hunger and malnutrition in all its forms and food security and nutrition are a top national priority. The Government promotes healthy diets and wellbeing at all life stages, with particular focus on early life stages, during which exclusive breastfeeding is encouraged.
- The national **policy on infant and young child feeding (IYCF)**, has the target to attain by 2025 that at least 50% of Thai infants are exclusively breastfed for the first 6 months of life. The campaign "**Empower Parents Enable Breastfeeding**" was launched by the Government of Thailand in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF to raise awareness on the importance and benefits of breastfeeding.
- In order to enable equal and equitable access to healthy diets through sustainable food systems, the Government stimulates local production of healthy food by providing equitable access to natural resources to rural farmers and fishermen including women and youth. The Government also promotes local processing and marketing of healthy foods in order to increase their local availability.
- Edible insects are promoted as powerful component of sustainable healthy diets. In Thailand, insect farming not only provides affordable nutritious

food, but is also an important source of income that improves the lives of many small-farmers, especially women, since most of the small-scale entrepreneurs in this industry are women.

- To strengthen food and agricultural sector, Thailand recently introduced **Bio-Circular-Green Economic Model or BCG** as a new economic model for inclusive and sustainable growth to create **People-Planet-Profit** by promoting the integration of **the New Theory of Agriculture** with technological innovation to boost **nature-positive production** as well as enhance **sustainable food systems**. In order to support the BCG model, **the "Urban Agriculture" project** was initiated to promote sustainable natural resource utilization.
- With this statement, <u>Thailand endorses</u> "The Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition" and <u>takes note of their Voluntary as non-binding basis</u>. We look forward to the implementation of these Guidelines at all levels.

Thank you and over to you.