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POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ON AGROECOLOGICAL AND OTHER INNOVATIVE APPROACHES FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS THAT ENHANCE FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- Switzerland would like to thank the two Rapporteurs, Ambassador Mohammad Hossein Emadi and Ambassador Yaya Olaniran, and those working in and for the CFS secretariat, for their stamina and commitment to bringing this policy convergence process on “Agroecological and other innovative approaches” to a conclusion. Negotiating entirely in a virtual space has doubtless complicated and prolonged the negotiation.
- To overcome the complex challenges the world faces, transformation of current global agriculture and food system is needed. Switzerland considers agroecology as one major pathway towards sustainable food systems.
- Therefore Switzerland supported the mandate to the HLPE and welcomed the **Panel’s science and evidence-based report** on “Agroecological and other approaches for sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition” as a **solid basis** for this policy convergence process.
- Unfortunately, we note that the content of the recommendation submitted to us today barely incorporates the main findings and recommendations of the HLPE report.
- This has never been the case at such level in the outcome of the 12 policy convergence processes endorsed by CFS since its reform. We deeply regret this situation.
- More specifically we regret that innovative key recommendations such as the recognition of improving the **ecological footprint** of food systems as an operational principle for transitioning to SFSs, strengthening of **true cost accounting** and the emerging importance of the concept of **‘agency’** as the fifth pillar of FSN with the view to progress towards the realization of the right to adequate food are not reflected at all in the recommendations



- Moreover, in many respects, what was agreed upon might fail to go beyond the current status quo. Indeed, the document we have before us today shows little ambition to guide those seeking to promote agroecological approaches in order to foster the transformative renewal of food systems.
- But to be optimistic, the recommendations do acknowledge the need to strengthen the transition to resilient and diversified sustainable food systems and the contribution of agroecology.
- A positive step as we jointly **move towards the Food System Summit** and then beyond with the achievement of the Agenda 2030 at the horizon.
- Regarding the process itself, we note the increasing **challenge to address the social pillar of sustainability** as well as **human rights concerns** within the CFS. Dialogue on those issues is getting more and more polarized.
- In this context, for Switzerland, it is particularly important to assure **support of the CSM back on board**, as civil society is one of the main stakeholder when it comes to the application of those recommendations.
- To conclude, Switzerland takes note of the conclusion of this policy convergence process.
- Thank you Chair.