

PORTUGAL

Statement

50th Committee on World Food Security (10 – 13 October 2022)

Item II b) Presentation of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022, and discussion on coordinating policy responses to the global food crisis

Mr. Chair,

1. Portugal aligns itself with the statement delivered by Czechia on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.
2. The State of Food Insecurity (SOFI) Report 2022 once again confirm the major impact of conflicts on food security. The situation has been exacerbated by the war of aggression against Ukraine, that is unduly jeopardizing global food security and nutrition. Moreover, it is unacceptable that civilian population is targeted, as we are seeing today, with the bombing of Ukrainian cities.
3. We can say that the most effective single contribution to improving food security in the short-term is stopping the aggression in Ukraine, as well as bringing an end to other conflicts. We join our voice to those that are calling to stop the war, now!
4. The SOFI Report 2022 highlights the challenges, as well the risks, that arise when we want to transform complex systems, such as agriculture and food systems. To overcome that complexity, urgent, concrete, and sound actions are needed for improving nutritious food production and availability, for realizing the Sustainable Development Goal 2 by 2030. Moreover, as the report point out, “healthy diets must be delivered at lower cost to contribute to people’s ability to afford them”. This implies both an expansion in the supply and a shift in consumption towards nutritious foods.
5. Therefore, it is of utmost importance the development of sustainable production, including scaling up ecosystem-based approaches, as well as local and territorial approaches.
6. On the natural resources use, particular attention is needed to stop soil degradation and enhancing soil health, as well as bold actions to promote sustainable and integrated water resources management.
7. Strong agricultural and food policies and effective global frameworks are needed. CFS is a forum with particular obligations to that end. Let us fulfil our responsibilities, together.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.