

## STATEMENT SWISS State Secretary Christian Hofer

### II: Ministerial Segment: Coordinating policy response to the global food crisis – the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022

Mr. Chair,

Honorable Ministers,

Principals of the UN Agencies

Excellency's, distinguished delegates,

- Switzerland shares its **great concern** that after decades of steady decline, trends in **world hunger** reverted in 2015 and is **now rising for the sixth time in a row**.
- Almost 3.1 billion people cannot afford a healthy diet in 2020 and projections show that nearly 670 million people will still be facing **hunger in 2030**, which is the **same as in 2015 when the 2030 Agenda was adopted**.
- This is unacceptable and reflects a global food system out of balance. We need to **change** this and we need to do it **quickly**.
- A **coordinated global policy response** is urgently needed to support the transformation to sustainable food systems. Our **common food future is at stake**.

- This year's SOFI report clearly highlights that **repurposing food and agricultural policies is needed** to make food systems more sustainable and healthy diets more affordable.
- Switzerland would like to **share two examples on how we are redesigning our policies** to strengthen a holistic food systems approach and promote sustainable diets at national level;

**First**, in June 2021 the Swiss Federal Council adopted its 2030 Sustainable Development Strategy. This Strategy contains the following objectives:

- Increase the portion of the **population that eats a healthy**, balanced and sustainable diet to one third;
- Reduce **food waste** by half;
- Reduce the **carbon footprint** from production to consumption by a quarter;
- Increase by one third the number of **farms** producing in a particularly **environment- and animal-friendly way**.

**Second**, in June 2022 the Swiss Federal Council published the report on the future direction of agricultural policy. It aims to implement a **comprehensive food systems approach** by 2030 and foresees the involvement of all key players from production to consumption.

- At international level, Switzerland pursues a nexus approach that closely links humanitarian aid, development cooperation and peacebuilding. It focuses on promoting agroecology and healthy and sustainable diets, especially for women and youth, as well as for smallholder farmers and disadvantaged urban consumers from low-income countries. Switzerland promotes the right to adequate food for all.

Mr. Chair,

- Switzerland has actively supported the CFS as the main intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder platform since before the reform. The **Committee** must continue to play a key role in promoting policy convergence and coherence by providing policy recommendations and guidance for more sustainable food systems and affordable healthy diets.
- The implementation of the **CFS products** should be further **strengthened at the national, regional and global levels**, including by the various **UN agencies**.

- The **policy recommendations on promoting youth engagement and employment** to be adopted this Wednesday will complement the CFS portfolio, which we welcome.
- We are convinced that the transformation of food systems will **only be possible if it involves young women and men**, as they are the future of food security.
- In the longer term, we recommend that the **High Level Panel on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE)** strengthens its crucial role at the science-policy interface by identifying future challenges, based on its report [\*Food security and nutrition: building a global narrative towards 2030\*](#), with the aim to inform CFS policy debates.
- Once again, Mr. Chair, Switzerland stands ready to continue to work with CFS and all its stakeholders to make the transformation of the current situation into more sustainable food systems a reality.
- Thank you for your attention.

