UK Statement

<u>Committee on World Food Security (CFS 50) 10 – 13th October 2022, FAO:</u>
<u>"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"</u>

Agenda item V. DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS TOOLS (for discussion)

- Thank-you Chair and good afternoon, everyone. We welcome the focus of this report and thank the HLPE for their work and for the presentations made this afternoon.

- Better global food security monitoring and analysis is more important now than ever - as we seek to respond to the current global food security crisis with targeted and needs based action with our limited responses. This is all the more important because more countries than ever are directly affected by mutually reinforcing negative impacts on food security.

- As the report highlights, a broad range of food security data and analysis is already available at the global level. Yet quality, reliability, robustness and coherence of analysis of such data presents a continual challenge for designing policy responses and effectively targeting food security measures.

- There are also critical gaps in the geographic coverage of robust data and analysis, and many countries of particular concern are not yet covered, despite the relatively low cost to scale up.

- Most decision makers are confused by a plethora of messages on numbers and causes that are not coherent or self-explanatory, in spite of the world having agreed 2 decades ago on the global standard methodology and classifications for food security monitoring and analysis, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC).

- The global food security crisis has further amplified the need and underlined the urgency for us to make progress to improve data collection and analysis at this report is very pertinent in that regard.

- We know that key actors need to work better together, including across here today, to ensure a less fragmented system. We therefore call on mandated organisations to strengthen their efforts in harmonizing data systems and indicators, while promoting interoperability at all levels and ensuring a strong commitment to comply with the principles of open data, and data sharing to ensure that all the data collected can be effectively used by all to strengthen global food security monitoring.

- The UK has been looking forward to the HLPE report on this hugely relevant theme for a long time, in particular since we got G7 governments to agree on robust Principles for Global Food Security Monitoring and Analysis in December last year. We look forward to much stronger and clearer pitches of its recommendations that we can use to help mitigate what is already the worst food security in two generations.