

## SUMMARY

Side Event 10 | Lessons from Brazil – recovering from setbacks in the fight against hunger and malnutrition and the challenges in the road ahead

### Speakers

- Valéria Burity (moderator) – Extraordinary Secretary for the Fight Against Hunger and Poverty, MDS, Brazil
- Wellington Dias, Minister of Social Development and Assistance, Family, and Fight Against Hunger, Brazil (MDS)
- José Graziano, President, Zero Hunger Institute
- Elisabetta Recine, Chairperson, National Council for Food and Nutrition Security, Brazil (CONSEA)
- Anne Kepple, FAO Statistics Division
- Daniel Balaban – Director, WFP Center of Excellence in Brazil
- Janne Nogueira – Deputy Coordinator for Food and Nutrition, Ministry of Health, Brazil (MS)

The side event was introduced by its moderator, Ms. Valéria Burity, the Brazilian Extraordinary Secretary for the Fight Against Hunger and Poverty. She gave an overview of Brazil's fight against hunger and stated the objectives for the side event.

The moderator introduced the Brazilian Minister of Social Development and Assistance, Family, and Fight Against Hunger, Mr. Wellington Dias, who stated the importance of integrating health, food, and educational policies in order to stop intergenerational poverty. He recalled that Brazil, despite having about half of its population in poverty and malnutrition in the beginning of the 21st century, had successfully achieved noteworthy results. In 2014, Brazil crossed off the FAO hunger map, only to come back in 2022, after the pandemic and a different, ruinous administration, reversed many of the prior successes. Mr. Dias further stated that President Lula's challenge is one of reconstruction.

- Ms. Burity made comments on Mr. Dias' speech and introduced the President of the Zero Hunger Institute, Mr. José Graziano.

- Mr. Graziano began by stressing the differences between Brazil's hunger scenario in 2003 and its current hunger issues. He proposed to discuss what were the hunger issues they were faced with in 2003, what are those

in 2023, and which scenario would be harder to overcome. Mr Graziano structured his speech in three parts: a. structural elements, b. conjunctural elements and c. what favors today the fight against hunger.

According to the President of the Zero Hunger Institute, the current scenario poses greater challenges, given the rise in numbers of malnourished people. Noteworthy is the fact that hunger has spread throughout the country, reaching big cities.

Following Mr. Graziano's speech, Ms. Burity introduced Ms. Elisabetta Recine, Chairperson of the Brazilian National Council for Food and Nutrition Security (CONSEA). Ms. Recine highlighted that poverty isn't homogeneous and neither is the expression of hunger. The reality of the indigenous population relating to hunger varies greatly from that experienced in peripheral zones. Ms. Recine stresses the importance of the participation of civil society and recalled the history of CONSEA.

Following with the program, the moderator introduced Ms. Anne Kepple, representative of the FAO Statistics Division. Ms. Kepple began her presentation on the Evolution of SOFI data as related to Brazil, from 2003 to the present, by explaining the FAO Hunger Map, that, according to her, had been prevalent in the Brazilian narrative on the fight against hunger. She stressed how hunger is not homogeneous in Brazil and points out inequalities between men and women relating to food security. Ms. Kepple stated the rising numbers in food insecurity and how, currently, 10 % of the Brazilian population faces severe food insecurity. She further points out how the pandemic has raised inequalities

Ms. Burity made comments on Ms. Kepple's presentation and introduced Mr. Daniel Balaban, Director of the WFP Center of Excellence in Brazil, who criticized the prevalence of funds for war and missiles over funds for food security.

Following Mr. Balaban's speech, Ms Butity introduced Ms. Janne Nogueira, the Deputy Coordinator for Food and Nutrition from the Brazilian Ministry of Health. She listed the many forms of malnutrition, spoke of the importance of synergic determinants, and mentioned the challenge of guaranteeing the human right to food and adequate and healthy food for all the Brazilian population. According to her, 33 million people are hungry, while 60% of the population is overweight. Ms. Nogueira highlighted the importance of fomenting family-based agriculture.

In her closing argument, Ms. Burity pointed out the many factors involved in the fight against hunger and food security and ensued the screening of a 3 minute video on the Brazil Without Hunger Plan.

Interventions from the floor followed, including from a Brazilian former smallholder farmer from the State of Piaui, coincidentally Minister Dias'

home state in Brazil, who gave his personal account about how Brazil's integrated policies for food security and social protection set him on a successful path to where he is now.