

CFS51

IV. Global Interlinkages dialogues

DATE: 24 October 2023

TIME: 10.00-13.00 (exact time to be advised)

LOCATION: FAO Headquarters, Rome

Statement by Richard Heath, Executive Director, Australian Farm Institute, on behalf of the CFS Private Sector Mechanism

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies, and esteemed colleagues,

On behalf of the Private Sector Mechanism, let me thank you for the opportunity to speak at this timely event and I'd first like to express our appreciation to Dr Nabarro, Ms. Spatolisano, His Excellency Dr Mayaki, and Dr Fotiou for their perceptive and guiding remarks for this dialogue.

Mr. Chairman, as the UN Secretary-General António Guterres has highlighted, "Halfway to the 2030 deadline, the SDGs are drifting further away by the day", concerted action now is needed to meet the SDGs and mitigate and adapt to climate change. Many countries are already off-track in achieving SDG2, and some, particularly small, low-income countries, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), are projected to remain off track in 2030. Additionally, future production will need to be resilient to climate change and natural resource degradation. To achieve more balanced nutrition will take a diverse diet, which includes fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, and poultry. Poor nutrition and better environmental protection are multidimensional challenges, requiring multisectoral and multilevel approaches.

In this regard we particularly endorse the point made by Dr Nabarro/Ms. Spatolisano/Dr Mayaki/Dr Fotiou concerning.....ADD POINT RAISED BY PANELLIST(s)

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efforts are required to transform food systems, ensure food security and invest in sustainable agricultural practices”. Specifically, target 2.1 (access to food) & 2.2 (malnutrition) are off-track, as detailed in the SOFI 2023 report.

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As we prepare for the UNFCCC CoP 28 in Dubai there is growing recognition of the changed operating environment, plus the interlinked themes of climate change, biodiversity loss and food security and nutrition that need to be addressed together. As a next step, as we approach the CoP we welcome the opportunity to engage with FAO together with member states and non-state actors to develop the FAO roadmap to achieve SDG2 and 1.5 degrees to define rational targets for agrifood systems emissions; provide actionable policy and technical pathways; and, finally, address trade-offs to provide operational pathways.

Chair, we welcome the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, its emphasis on the role of intergovernmental and other organizations to implement the Framework and the effective contribution of the private sector towards national biodiversity strategies and action plans. We look forward to continuing to work closely with the CFS, the Rome based agencies and all other partners to further those goals.

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