

Agenda item IV: Global interlinkages dialogues

Thank you Chair,

The World Health Organization would like to reiterate the importance of ensuring that food systems actions need to work towards ensuring good health and adequate nutrition of people, by delivering healthy diets to all.

The first UN Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment which took place here in July 2023, showed us that there is still a long way to go in ensuring that food security, healthy diets, good nutrition, health and well-being for all are key outcomes of food systems transformation. At the same time, potential negative impacts of the food systems transformation on accessibility and affordability of healthy diets should be carefully monitored and averted.

We welcome the political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly that was adopted at the SDG Summit and which called, in paragraph 38 (b), for accelerating actions to end hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition, and the realization of the right to adequate food including through the promotion of safe, nutritious and healthy diets.

WHO looks forward to the upcoming COP28 which, we hope, will be more deliberate in bringing to the attention of the negotiators the interlinkages between nutrition and climate, including the importance of healthy diets from sustainable food systems as a smart mitigation and adaptation measure.

In this context, an important initiative on climate action and nutrition (I-CAN) has been established by the COP27 Egyptian Presidency in collaboration with WHO, FAO, GAIN, SUN and other partners. I-CAN envisions fostering collaboration to accelerate transformative action to address the critical nexus of climate change and nutrition and support Member States in delivering climate change adaptation and mitigation policy actions that also contribute to improved nutrition. A clear win-win for people and planet.