

## IX. Progress Report on ICN2 follow-up

**DATE:** 26 October 2023

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

**LOCATION:** FAO Headquarters, Rome

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Katarina Eriksson, Food for Development Director, Tetra Pak, on behalf of the CFS Private Sector Mechanism

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellencies, and esteemed colleagues,

My name is Katarina Eriksson, I represent Tetra Pak Food for Development, and I am pleased to be intervening on behalf of the Private Sector Mechanism.

Let me thank you for the opportunity to speak on the topic of progress on the commitments made by the Second International Conference on Nutrition, and implementation of the Decade of Action on Nutrition. This topic could not be of greater importance, due to current and dire state of food insecurity. Agriculture in all its totality: crops, livestock, horticulture, fisheries and forestry is **the** source of all food and nutritional security and must be integrated into global nutrition discussions.

Private Sector engagement in CFS processes has increased tremendously over the past years, and we were also very active during the ICN2 process. Some of the messages we sent during that process remain worth stressing today:

- First, the need to increase sustainable agriculture production by all farmers. Two things are needed for this: private sector supporting with skills and technology and government providing the policies, regulations and enabling environments. We are very happy to see that the interest for cross sector partnerships in this field is growing. In Tetra Pak we engage in partnerships that link smallholder dairy farmers to the dairy industry and formal sector, which gives them opportunities to develop and improve their livelihoods.

- Second, furthering nutritional goals by addressing the access to safe, nutritious, affordable and diverse diets, particularly in terms of the needs of women, children and the most vulnerable. *The relevance of the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment on this topic is clear.* And the School Meals Coalition is one of many important initiatives to promote nutrition to children world wide.
- Third: Innovation, research and education remain essential to accelerating nutritional improvements. One example among the multitude of recent initiatives taken by private sector is the development of a super porridge for school children in drought stricken areas of Kenya, through a partnership between private sector nutritional ingredient suppliers and food processing technology companies on one side and government agencies on the other.

Finally I want to highlight that the guidance provided in the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition remain valuable to the discussion of ICN2 follow-up, since they provide a balanced, science and evidence-backed advocacy tool that addresses the current global food insecurity and malnutrition. These Guidelines should be reflected in nutrition and food systems policy-related discussions.

In conclusion, the private sector is a key mobilizing and operational force in furthering global nutrition.

All actors at a national, regional and global level need to be included in the dialogues on how to drive change in the food systems to ensure nutrition and food security for all, and environmental sustainability for the planet.

Stakeholders must work together and develop a global food system that improves people's nutrition in a sustainable way. To this end, PSM members have taken part in the implementation of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition, and will continue to engage in diverse activities and partnerships to support the initiative.

Thank you Chair