



Joint Statement by MIKTA (Mexico, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Türkiye and Australia)

at

the 51st Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

Under the Agenda Item VI on

Leveraging the Use of Data for Driving Food Security and Nutrition Policy: Endorsement and Uptake of the Policy Recommendations on Data Collection and Analysis Tools for Food Security and Nutrition

Rome, October 2023

Mr. Chair,

I have the honor to deliver the following statement on behalf of the MIKTA countries: Mexico, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Türkiye, and Australia.

As a cross-regional group from different continents, MIKTA is concerned by present challenges to global food security and nutrition, with special effects for developing and least developing countries that are compounded by increasing poverty and inequality, asymmetric pandemic recovery, climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification and degradation and the ongoing geopolitical situation. These challenges, often characterized by unpredictable complex crises, have undermined the progress in the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals in many parts of the world.

We believe that an effectively functioning CFS is key to collectively address these challenges while taking into account the efforts of Member States as well as the RBAs towards this end.

MIKTA remains committed to be part of the solution and support CFS efforts to promote effective, inclusive, evidence-informed, and data-based policymaking in addressing the multiple challenges we face.

Mr. Chair,

Since 2019, the CFS has been intensively engaged in comprehensive discussions on how to promote informed decision-making to address the root causes of hunger and malnutrition. Such a noble idea has already been endorsed through the adoption of the Policy Recommendations on Data Collection and Analysis Tools for Food Security and Nutrition today.

"Ensuring food security and nutrition for all" is a mandated task that must be borne collectively and thoroughly by all stakeholders through actions aimed at transforming agriculture systems to make them sustainable and resilient, improving access to nutritious food and healthy diets. In this regard, the Policy Recommendations will serve as a strategic guidance and sound framework to achieve the overarching objectives of CFS.

The Policy Recommendation have shown us the great merit of promoting greater awareness and demand for better data collection, usage as well as the importance of data management and/or governance to produce quality decision-making.

We do need to bear in mind, however, that fundamental data gaps still exist in many countries. The digital divide and the lack of data analytical skills have impeded many countries to produce correct, timely, and sufficient policies to ensure food security and improved nutrition rates.

We, therefore, support the urgency of increased and sustainable investment in innovative, adequate and affordable financing schemes, human capital, capacity, infrastructure, and technologies for data collection and management.

Mr. Chair,

As highlighted in the Policy Recommendations, we reaffirm the significant importance of increased collaboration among all parties to harmonize, improve, and promote legal, transparent, and accountable FSN data sharing for public use.

The establishment and enhancement of FSN data framework at global, regional, national, and subnational levels will help ensure the right balance between data access, collection, and protection.

Under Indonesia's 2023 chairmanship, MIKTA will work together in ensuring that our countries seize the opportunities offered by the digital transformation and deliver positive impacts in our food and nutrition systems.

On this note, we will organize a MIKTA Workshop on Digital Transformation to allow MIKTA members to make joint efforts for building norms, share best practices, reliable and timely data and information and forge collective responses in digital transformation.

Mr. Chair,

We believe that these action-oriented and ready-to-use policy recommendations will strengthen the efforts to manage the data systems to monitor food security and nutrition indicators as the basis for improved decision-making on food security and nutrition.

I thank you.

(Word count: 500 words/5 Minutes)