CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition

WFO Comments on the Preliminary Version of the Zero Draft

First of all, WFO would like to thank the OEWG Chair as well as the technical task team and the CFS Secretariat for the efforts made so far in putting together this first preliminary zero draft.

A first more general comment is that we would suggest referring to *sustainable food systems* in the text. We find this definition more appropriate as it indicates food systems where nutritious and healthy food are produced, made available and affordable and consumed by everyone, with special attention to the environmental impacts as well as the socio-economic well-being of both consumers and producers.

A second general comment is that we suggest replacing the terms *smallholders or small-scale farmers* with *farmers*. In fact, farmers are all food producers regardless of their scale and it is also a matter of increasing inclusiveness and consistency considering that the term *farmers* is already used within the text (i.e. para 33.d, 36.a).

The following comments are related to specific paragraphs:

Para 2: While we appreciate the reference to consumption, we would suggest adding a reference also to the production side because the kind of food produced has an impact on the availability and affordability of healthy diets.

Para 11: When mentioning the need for guidelines to have a comprehensive and systemic approach, we suggest that education should be added to the list of mentioned sectors (*food, agriculture and health sectors*) that should be involved in order to avoid fragmentation. A mention to the transport sector as well as to the need of making appropriate infrastructures available should also be mentioned in reference to food loss and waste as it has a strong impact on food systems, both for consumers and producers.

Para 25: When reference is made to the “guiding principles”, we would suggest broadening the list of documents and tools in the footnote adding a reference to the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition and the UN Decade on Family Farming the will be launched next May.

Para 33.b: We would suggest focusing on responsible investments in agriculture rather than on agricultural subsidies. We think it would also be coherent as the first of the CFS Principles for Responsible Investments in Agriculture and Food Systems is “Contribution on Food Security and Nutrition” with a specific reference to “Increasing sustainable production and productivity of safe, nutritious, diverse, and culturally acceptable food, and reducing food loss and waste”.
