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CFS 46 Delegate Statement

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Country/Organization/Constituency: Germany

Opening session CFS 46

„State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) 2019“

Statement:

Mr. Chairman,

Ministers and Secretaries of State,

Principals of the three Rome based Agencies,

Dear Colleagues,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We all have taken note of the alarming figures mentioned in the latest SOFI 2019 and the IPCC reports. Malnutrition is on the rise. Every third person is malnourished. Worldwide more than 820 million people are today suffering from hunger, about 2 billion people in the world experience food insecurity and around 700 million people are suffering from obesity.

Following the successfully concluded evaluation of the CFS reform process and the subsequent realignment, I think it is not exaggerated to say that the next year will be crucial for the CFS to demonstrate its regained unity, efficiency and continued relevance.

A successful development of the „Voluntary Guidelines for Food Systems and Nutrition“ in 2020 will be in light of the envisaged Food Systems Summit in 2021 of utmost importance and offers a unique opportunity not only for the CFS, but also for the three RBAs as well.

To say it loud and clear: the Committee on World Food Security as the only intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder platform within the UN system dedicated to food security and nutrition, having developed an excellent product such as these voluntary guidelines, would necessarily become a cornerstone for the successful preparation of a substantial Food systems Summit in 2021.

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Germany is pleased to have contributed to the successful realization of regional conferences this year with a substantial financial support of 500.000 €. These regional consultations ensure the necessary inclusiveness of the regional characteristics to be taken into consideration in the drafting process of the voluntary guidelines.

Please let us never forget: the comparative advantage of the CFS is its multi-stakeholder structure and input. With this in mind, let us build on the good work we have already accomplished together in the past, let us continue to join forces and to work strictly cross-sectorally.

I think it is well known anyway, but let me nevertheless highlight once again the significance that both, the work and the wellbeing of the CFS, as well as sustainable food systems and nutrition, have for my government.

I wish all of us an interesting and inspiring week full of productive interaction and that we are able to break out of our respective silos.