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## CFS 46 Delegate Statement

Name: Mr. Addisu Melkamu, Alternate Permanent Representative of Ethiopia

Country/Organization/Constituency: Ethiopia

Statement: On Marking the kick-off the UN Decade of Family Farming (2020-2028): - investing in Smallholder Agriculture for Food Security and Nutrition

**Mr Chair,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen  
Good Morning /All**

Ethiopia is delivering this intervention statement on the behalf of the African Regional Group on investing in Smallholder Agriculture for Food Security and Nutrition

On the behalf of the African Regional Group Ethiopia would like to reiterate its commitment to the policy recommendations of CFS “Investing in smallholder agriculture for food security and Nutrition” endorsed by CFS 40th session.

As most you have mentioned in the previous session, nowadays, an estimated number of 500 million smallholders’ farmers are feeding 2 billion peoples. Contrarily, smallholder farmers are also major victims of poverty and Hunger.

Africa with the population of nearly 1.3 billion, agriculture accounts on average 15% of the export, 60-80% of employment and nearly 40% of GDP. The majority of small holder farmers are still producing at subsistence level characterized by low input and low output. Thus, Ethiopia believes that, one of the basic reasons why Africa’s Agriculture sector has not developed is because of limited control over factors of production.

In this regard we won’t achieve the promising plan of ending hunger and poverty by 2030 unless we invest more and more in supporting Smallholder farmers’ **access to assets, access to markets** and **building convenient institutions**. Above all, Ethiopia believes that Africa’s CFS 46 Delegate Statement

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commitment is very indispensable to achieve SDG2, Zero Hunger by pursuing integrated and inclusive development policies.

**Moreover**, the large number of Smallholder farmers is youth and women who are struggling to avoid hunger from their households, to send their children to school, to cover the family's health expenditure and all other expenses. This is a very clear reality in Africa and Asia. Therefore, if African and other world leaders are devoted to formulating policies giving a particular attention for women and youth farmers, that will help to narrow the existing gender disparity and will have an initiation to help the overall households.

Finally, to defeat Hunger in all its form, have to invest on the factors of production and we have to reduce the barriers of smallholder farmers.

Thank you Mr Chair

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