



# COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

## **Forty-third Session**

***"Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"***

**Rome, Italy, 17-21 October 2016**

**STATEMENT BY MR PATRICK CARON, CHAIR OF THE STEERING  
COMMITTEE OF THE HIGH-LEVEL PANEL OF EXPERTS ON FOOD  
SECURITY AND NUTRITION (HLPE)**

Madam Chair, Excellency Ambassador Gornass,

Mr Director-General of the FAO, Jose Graziano da Silva,

Mr President of IFAD, Kanayo Nwanze,

Madam Assistant Executive Director of WFP, Elisabeth Rasmusson,

Dear Deborah,

Ministries,

Excellencies,

Member Country Representatives,

CFS Multi-stakeholders,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you, Madam Chair, for giving me the floor.

We know, you know, the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement offer a historic framework for addressing Sustainable Development and Climate change.

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This opening session is an opportunity to consider how our work in CFS may contribute to this very exciting momentum.

Climate change and its impacts on Food Security has been covered directly by the 3rd HLPE report on Climate change in 2012, and also indirectly by many of the previous HLPE reports, including the reports on Price volatility in 2011, on Biofuels (2013), and, last year, on Water.

In the same way, Sustainable Development in its different dimensions has been central in the narrative of most of the HLPE reports. The reports on Social protection (2012) and on Smallholder agriculture (2013) covered directly the social and economic dimensions of sustainability, while the sustainable use of natural resources was central in the reports on Land tenure (2011), Food losses and waste (2014), and on Water, last year.

Several HLPE reports address issues of Sustainability and Climate Change from a sectoral perspective as well. For example, the report on Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture for food security and nutrition released in 2014. The report on Sustainable agricultural development for food security and nutrition: what roles for livestock? which will be presented this afternoon, highlights the need to first improve resource efficiency, second, strengthen resilience and third secure social equity/responsibility, but in an integrated way. And the report on Sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition is still expected in 2017.

Well, all these reports have consistently evidenced the tight links between agriculture, food systems, environment, climate change, welfare, social equity and justice, human and environmental health, energy, political stability. They call for fundamental changes in both agriculture and food systems to improve food security and nutrition. Changes of such magnitude would even serve as a powerful lever to address the entire 2030 Agenda and to address the failure you have pointed out, Dr Graziano da Silva.

Building upon all this work, the HLPE stands ready, if needed, to provide scientific and knowledge-based analysis, and advice towards the implementation of this global agenda.

Let's also look at the forthcoming contributions from HLPE to CFS.

Following the Second International Conference on Nutrition in Rome two years ago, and the adoption last year of the 2030 Agenda, especially but not exclusively with respect to SDG2 that will be reviewed next year by the High Level Political Forum in New York, the HLPE was requested by the CFS to prepare a report on Nutrition and food systems to be presented in October 2017 as you reminded us, Madame Chair. The HLPE Project team is making good progress and you are all invited to contribute to the open electronic consultation on the V0 draft that will begin right after this Plenary week.

In order to inform the future multi-year program of work of the CFS, the HLPE has also been requested to produce by 2017, a second note on Critical and emerging issues for food security and nutrition. This second exercise will be inserted in the overall framework of the 2030 Agenda.

The HLPE has directly invited almost 200 scientific institutions worldwide to contribute to this work of identifying critical and emerging issues. An open electronic inquiry was also launched this summer. To strengthen the inclusiveness of the process and as requested by some stakeholders, it was decided to extend the deadline of the consultation process until the end of October.

I would like to thank all the scientists and stakeholders involved in the HLPE work. Their efforts strengthened my conviction that science and diverse knowledges, beyond their importance for designing technologies, are essential components to highlight controversies, inform political debates, and identify the critical and emerging issues that will have to be addressed in the near future. 2030 is tomorrow.

Let me also thank particularly the resource partners of the HLPE Trust Fund, since 2010: Australia, the European Union, France, Ireland, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Thank you for your attention and for your support, Madame Chair, and thank you all.