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COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY

Fiftieth Session "Making a Difference in Food Security and Nutrition"

10-13 October 2022

COORDINATING POLICY RESPONSES TO THE GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS – STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD 2022 – DRAFT CONCLUSIONS

MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COMMITTEE

Opening statements are delivered by: Mr António Guterres, United Nations Secretary General; H.E. Csaba Kőrösi, President of the United Nations General Assembly; H.E. Lachezara Stoeva, President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); Dr Qu Dongyu, Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); Mr Alvaro Lario, President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); Mr David Beasley, Executive Director, World Food Programme (WFP); Mr Bernard Lehman, Chairperson of the Steering Committee, High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN); and Mr Gabriel Ferrero y de Loma-Osorio, Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security. The statements are available as CFS Information documents at https://www.fao.org/about/meetings/cfs/cfs50/list-of-documents/en/

The Committee:

- a) Welcomes the collaboration between FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO around the 2022 report on the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI);
- b) Considers a presentation delivered by Mr. Maximo Torero, Chief Economist, FAO;
- c) Expresses deep concern over the current global food security crisis, including over:

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i. the current state of global food insecurity, with estimated 702 to 828 million people globally affected by hunger in 2021, about 150 million more since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic;

- ii. The projected nearly 670 million people who will still be facing hunger in 2030 8 percent of the world population -which is the same as in 2015 when the 2030 Agenda was launched;
- iii. The almost 3.1 billion people who could not afford a healthy diet in 2020, 112 million more people than in 2019;
- iv. The estimated 22 percent of children under five years of age who were stunted, wasted (6.7 percent) and overweight (5.7 percent) in 2020; as well as the estimated 571 million women (nearly one in three women aged 15 to 49 years) affected by anaemia in 2019;
- v. The impact of the food security crisis on the assistance provided by United Nations humanitarian agencies;
- vi. The disproportionate impact of the crisis on the poor, persons with disabilities, small scale food producers and family farmers, women, youth, older persons and children, as well as those living in vulnerable situations, exacerbating humanitarian needs and increasing the risk of famine around the world; the surge and extreme volatility in international food commodity prices; the rise in fertilizer prices and the shortages caused by supply chain disruptions, affecting crop yields and threatening agricultural productivity and production; the rise in energy and fuel prices, which is further increasing food prices, narrowing fiscal space, resulting in, or exacerbating debt distress and economic downturns;
- d) Underlines that geopolitical instability and increasing conflicts undermine food security and nutrition and have negative impact on agri-food systems and emphasized the role of the CFS within the areas of its competence in monitoring and analysing the impacts of crises and conflicts, with a special emphasis on the impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security and agri-food systems under the mandate of CFS, economic downturns, climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, and other shocks and crises.
- e) Reaffirms its commitment to strive for a world free from hunger where countries implement the Voluntary Guidelines for the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security.
- f) Recalls UNGA resolution 76/264 "State of global food insecurity" (A/RES/76/264).
- g) Welcomes:
- i. The determination of the international community to address the global food security crisis on the basis of unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation, recognizing the fundamental role of the United Nations system in catalyzing and coordinating a comprehensive global response, under the leadership of the Secretary-General;

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ii. The regular inclusion of substantive items on the impacts of conflicts on global food security in the agendas of Bureau and Advisory Group meetings, as well as the engagement of the CFS Chairperson, HLPE-FSN, Secretariat and autonomous mechanisms of CFS within the UN Secretary General's Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance (GCRG);

- iii. The progress achieved under the UN Secretary General's GCRG and encourages the Committee to continue to engage in the discussion, including by disseminating GCRG Briefs;
- iv. The High Level Special Event co-convened on 18 July 2022 at the UN Headquarters in New York by the President of the General Assembly (PGA) and the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) entitled "Time to Act Together: Coordinating Global Policy Responses to the Global Food Crisis" supported by and in support of the UN Secretary-General's Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy, and Finance.
- h) Acknowledges the Co-Chairs' Summary of the High Level Special Event as an input to the Plenary discussion (CFS 2022/50/Inf.24 "Co-Chairs' summary of the High-Level Special Event "Time to act together: Coordinating policy responses to the Global Food Security Crisis" UN Headquarters, New York, 18 July 2022).
- i) Calls on leveraging the convening power of the CFS to strengthen coordinated global policy responses to the multiple dimensions of the global food crisis, including through, but not limited to, regular substantive items on the global food security crisis in the agendas of Bureau and Advisory Group meetings, as well as the engagement of the CFS Chairperson, HLPE-FSN, Secretariat and autonomous mechanisms of CFS within the UN Secretary General's Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance.
- j) Takes note of the following:
- i. The importance of convergence and alignment on the policy responses and strategies in support of country-led actions addressing the food crisis;
- ii. The importance of combining short and medium-term with long-term solutions to the crisis, leading towards agriculture and food systems that are more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive, in line with the 2030 Agenda.
- iii. The different views expressed by delegations on the impact of economic, financial and trade measures, in relation to food security and nutrition during the global food crisis, recalling Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.