

## 2025 HIGH-LEVEL MINISTERIAL SPECIAL EVENT

### From Vulnerability to Resilience - Strengthening Food Security and Better Life in Small Island Developing States, Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries

#### MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

29 June 2025 | 10:00 – 17:30  
Green Room, FAO Headquarters

We, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the Member Nations of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), convened at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome, Italy on 29 June 2025 for the High-Level Ministerial Special Event “From Vulnerability to Resilience- Strengthening Food Security and Better Life”:

- *recall* our commitments under the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS, the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and the Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries as well as our National Agrifood Systems Pathways
- *recognize* our nations’ unique vulnerabilities—including extreme weather events, economic shocks, and geographical constraints—and stress the importance of sustainable agrifood systems in building resilience and enhancing equitable development
- *appreciate* FAO’s support to SIDS, LDCs and LLDCs through the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and its vision of Four Betters : Better Production, Better Nutrition, a Better Environment, and a Better Life, leaving no one behind, and flagship Initiatives, including the Hand-in Hand Initiative, One Country One Priority Product, and Digital Villages among others, for their contributions to food security and access to healthy diets for all.

We reaffirm our resolve to prioritize food security and nutrition in national policies and to leverage science, technology, and innovation to transform agrifood systems, strengthening climate resilience through investments in disaster preparedness and recovery, and fostering enhanced partnerships among nations, organizations, and stakeholders to drive sustainable, inclusive, and equitable development.

We call upon FAO to:

- take decisive action in advancing the implementation of global development agendas for SIDS, LDCs, and LLDCs by providing targeted support that transforms our agrifood systems. Specifically, we call for:

**the development of a comprehensive strategy** that systematically aligns FAO's assistance with the priorities outlined in the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS, the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, and the Awaza Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries. This strategy should address key areas such as sustainable agriculture, natural resources management- including soil, land, forests, water and fisheries and aquaculture- climate resilience, food security and nutrition, technology and innovation, investment readiness, early warning and market access, evidence and data for policy making ensuring that interventions are tailored to the unique challenges and opportunities of each group of countries.

**the preparation of a 2026-2027 Action Plan** to provide a structured framework over the next biennium to guide organizational efforts to support SIDS, LDCs, and LLDCs with a programmatic approach. We also request FAO to develop a two-year Action Plan to operationalize the strategy when ready. The Action Plan should outline clear steps, timelines, and resources required for targeted initiatives. The plan should prioritize capacity development, technical assistance, policy support, and investment mobilization to accelerate progress in agrifood systems transformation. It should also include a fund-raising strategy and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation for impact and accountability.

We express our sincere appreciation to FAO for convening the 2025 High-Level Ministerial Special Event and for its continued leadership in supporting the agrifood systems priorities of SIDS, LDCs, and LLDCs and request the Organization to explore the possibility of fixing the organization of such an event biennially, in conjunction with FAO Conferences.

With this document, we reaffirm our collective commitment to delivering concrete, programmatic, and measurable actions that will drive meaningful transformation in agrifood systems. We call upon the international and development community, including private sector, to accelerate implementation, scale up investment, and strengthen coordination to realize a more resilient, inclusive and food-secure future for our nations.

We, the Ministers responsible for agriculture, fisheries, forestry, natural resources management, and food security and nutrition of FAO Members, present or duly represented, hereby adopt this Statement.