

The President of the Italian Republic

STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF WORLD FOOD DAY

Factors such as climate change and loss of biodiversity – exacerbated by the pandemic and the financial crisis – have become systemic making it all the more difficult for the international community to make headway towards achieving “Zero Hunger”.

Furthermore, Russia’s aggression against Ukraine has brought about dramatic repercussions on food insecurity.

Without equal access to food, it is impossible to ensure that millions of people on our planet – especially those living in the poorest countries – lead healthy lives, receive quality education, and are provided opportunities for social and economic growth. More than one in ten people in the world are in this situation.

Faced with these challenges, Italy stands at the forefront to seek proper solutions to today’s crises and to address goals in the long-term, at both the global level and in the Mediterranean area.

We must work to make food systems more resilient and sustainable. Only through effective multilateralism can we achieve such a complex and ambitious goal. In this context, the role of the UN and its Rome-based food agencies is vital, and on the occasion of World Food Day I would like to reiterate Italy’s appreciation for their actions.

To those who work daily to ensure access to food for everyone, I wish to express the gratitude of the Italian Republic.