

## **47<sup>th</sup> Session Committee on World Food Security (CFS)**

8-11 February 2021

### **AT Statement**

#### **Terms of Reference for the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

Austria aligns itself with the statement made by ..... on behalf of the European Union. We welcome and support the process of creating and enshrining the Voluntary Guidelines. We thank all those involved for their commitment.

Gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is not only a “stand-alone” goal but the 2030 Agenda also stipulates that the achievement of all SDGs contribute to gender equality. At the same time, reaching gender equality is a necessary precondition for achieving all SDGs. This interdependency becomes particularly evident when looking at SDG 2, Zero Hunger: Our vision of a future without hunger where all people are provided with high-quality food is directly interlinked with gender equality.

A future for humankind on this planet is only possible if women and men as well as girls and boys are equal. We can meet the ongoing challenges only if women and men have the same opportunities to develop their potentials. They have to work side by side together in mutual respect and use all their efforts to create a sustainable, climate friendly and peaceful future.

SDG 4, Quality education for all, is key to achieving such a future. In Austria, we put high emphasis on eliminating existing gender stereotypes and promote equal participation in education. One example for these efforts is the education of girls and boys in agricultural and forestry schools. Sustainable design and the preservation of rural habitats should not be determined by sex. We want to prepare future generations of women and men to take on this responsibility as equal partners. However, the most important requirement for this concerns us all: To be a role model every day and to live gender equality.