

**For Item III.a**

**Statement by MATSUMOTO Masao,  
Deputy Director General, Export and International Affairs Bureau  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan  
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Honorable Ministers,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished delegates and participants,

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Thanawat Tiensin for his dedicated efforts as the Chair of CFS for the past two years which have included an unprecedentedly difficult time under the COVID-19.

It is my great honor to introduce Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021 and its linkage with the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems on behalf of the Government of Japan.

According to the report on the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021, undernourished people across the world increased from 650 million in 2019 to 770 million in 2020, up to more than 100 million within the past one year. It is estimated that 660 million people will still be undernutrition in 2030, indicating tackling undernutrition as a major challenge to achieve 2030 agenda.

While undernutrition caused by hunger and poverty remains a major challenge, the risk of overweight and obesity are on the rise. These are also important issues to tackle. Therefore, it is urgent to realize both improved nutrition and healthy diet through sustainable food systems across the world.

Japan places great importance to human security. That is because "nutrition" is necessary to create a society in which each human being is free from fear and deficiency and can live a dignified life. In light of these circumstances, Japan will hold Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit 2021, where various

stakeholders will discuss the way of improving nutrition including measures to cope with undernutrition and the "double burden of malnutrition," which is a mixture of undernutrition and obesity.

Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit will set 5 themes which are:

1. Health: Making nutrition integral to Universal Health Coverage for sustainable development
2. Food: Building food systems that promote safe, healthy diets and nutrition, ensure livelihoods of producers, and are climate-smart.
3. Resilience: Addressing malnutrition effectively in fragile and conflict affected contexts.
4. Promoting data-driven accountability.
5. Securing new investment and driving innovation in nutrition financing.

With regard to the second theme, "Food: Building food systems that promote safe, healthy diets and nutrition, ensure livelihoods of producers, and are climate-smart", Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries will hold a side event consisting of several sessions. One of the sessions in this side event will introduce the outcome and discussion at the UN Food Systems Summit. The session will also introduce a Japanese "Strategy for Sustainable Food Systems" which was issued last May. The strategy will both enhance productivity potentials and ensure sustainability in the agriculture, forestry, fisheries and food sectors through innovation.

Regarding relationship between the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSyN) and Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit, the essence of the VG is included in the sessions in Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit. For example, VGFSyN 3.2 "Sustainable Food Supply Chains to Achieve Healthy Diets in the Context of Economic, Social and Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change" is associated with the discussion on sharing the importance of transforming food systems and enhancing productivity potentials while ensuring sustainability in compatible manner through utilizing science and technologies based on the natural and other conditions in each country and region. We would like to underline that there is no "one size fit all" solution in the challenge toward

sustainable food supply chains to achieve healthy diets.

Another example is VGFSyN 3.5” People-Centered Nutrition Knowledge Education and Information”. This is also associated with the discussion on sharing health value that can be derived from Japanese traditional food culture and food habit and related information.

In addition, considering the importance of education for children on healthy diets, we will share our experience of Japanese food education which is called “Shokuiku”. Government of Japan have formulated national plan for food education in March 2021 as “Fourth Basic Plan for the Promotion of Shokuiku” and we are happy to share the information of food education in Japan.

We will continue our preparation of the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit expecting extensive discussion and fruitful outcome at the summit.

Thank you.