

II. STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD 2021, ITS POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND THE ROLE OF CFS IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19 (for information and discussion)

Statement by Switzerland

Switzerland welcomes the discussion on the SOFI Report 2021 and particularly values its important food systems lens.

The report clearly states that we need a systemic transformative change of food and agriculture and that sustainable food systems are central to achieve affordable and accessible healthy diets for all, while also addressing the pressing issues of climate change, biodiversity loss and the objectives of the SDGs. During the UNFSS21 the majority of UN member states have publicly committed to a transformation towards more sustainable food systems by 2030.

- Particularly, we would like to highlight :
 1. Our shared deep concern for the rising number of people affected by hunger globally and the worrying persistent continuance of the burden of malnutrition in all of its forms.
 2. Our appreciation of the analysis of the importance of territorial approaches to food systems transformation applied not only to rural contexts but also to urban settings. We welcome the recognition that with over half of the world's population now living in urban settings, municipal authorities can play an important role in transforming food systems and shape food environments.
 3. We welcome the acknowledgment of the existence of persisting socio-economic inequalities. In this context, we would like to stress that empowerment of vulnerable and historically marginalized populations – such as women and youth in smallholder farming contexts – must not only come from technology, data and innovation as often suggested, but also through effective and participatory governance mechanisms and institutions based on the respect, protection and fulfilment of the right to food and nutrition. We therefore encourage the implementation of related international frameworks, technical standards and voluntary guidelines - such as the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition.
 4. We welcome the mention of nature-positive production systems as ways of achieving the interrelated goals of protecting and restoring the environment while delivering improved nutrition outcomes. We believe in that regard that agroecology should be more prominently featured, as evidence shows that in agroecological complex systems, crop diversification and mixed crop-livestock systems are closely related to diet diversification and thus better nutrition. In this context, we call upon other Member States to use the 13 HLPE agroecological principles as a framework to support the transformation of their food systems, both when designing policies and when working on the ground.
- To conclude, we would like to underline that systemic transformation must be fostered via collective and multi-stakeholders dialogues (such as the Food Systems Summit Dialogues), strategies and actions, involving many different ministries in the governments as well as civil society, business, science and consumers at national and global levels. One such effort is the recently established coalition on Healthy Diet from Sustainable Food Systems which we support.

Thank you Chair.