

STATEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE OCCASION OF THE 49TH SESSION OF THE CFS

Agenda Item 4: The UNFSS and Its Implications for CFS

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1. The UN Food System Summit has provided a platform to boost the Philippines food systems transformation efforts centered on a whole-of-nation approach.

The Philippines is committed to adopt a cohesive, inclusive, dynamic, and collaborative approach in reviewing, expanding and implementing existing policies towards transforming the Philippine food system into one that shapes a healthier, more competitive, gender-inclusive, and climate-positive nation, while harnessing sustainable resources.

The Philippines is committed to implement bold actions and solutions to deliver progress on all the 17 SDGs.

We look forward to the continued support of the UN System, especially the Rome-based UN agencies and the CFS and its High-Level Panel of Experts, International Financial Institutions, private sector, and civil society, in the implementation of our National Food Systems Transformation Pathway.

2. We take note of the background paper prepared by the CFS Secretariat on the UN 2021 Food Systems Summit and its Implications for the CFS.

The Philippines looks forward to the outcome of the Bureau's further analysis and proposals for next steps on the role of the CFS and its HLPE of in consultation with all Members, the Advisory Group, and other stakeholders.

3. Meanwhile, we wish to put forward these general thoughts:

1st -The UN Secretary General's Chair Summary and Statement of Action on the UN Food Systems Summit highlighted that the Follow-Up to the Summit will build on existing efforts of countries and supporting organizations and that implementation of Summit outcomes to support these efforts at country-level will use existing institutions, improving their responsiveness where necessary. The Philippines agrees.

2nd-The Philippines supports the position that the CFS and its HLPE should have a complementary role to the UN Rome-based agencies' Coordination Hub and the post - UN Food Systems Summit Follow-Up.

3rd- We also support adopting a pragmatic approach. Should it be necessary for the CFS and its HLPE to be made "more responsive" , deliberation will have to be made vis-a-vis current funding levels, administrative modalities and workload considerations.

4th-As for the HLPE, we can build on the work that it has done since its creation in October 2009 and see how links can be made to regional science-policy bodies and initiatives, country transformation pathways, and coalitions of action that have emerged.

Lastly, it is equally important to ensure that there is monitoring and evaluation so that lessons learned and best practices can help inform the implementation of countries' national pathways.

4. Thank you and best wishes in working together towards attaining a food secure world at the most efficient, effective and inclusive manner.