



STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA ON AGENDA ITEM IV: UN FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT

Thank you Chairperson,

At the outset, South Africa wishes to express its appreciation for the key role FAO played in the success of the UN Food Systems Summit process, in particular the hosting of the Pre-Summit.

The inputs of the Chair of the CFS and the Chair of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) to this process are appreciated.

The Committee, through its various food and nutrition reports and guidelines, facilitates action to transform our food systems, and these should be more fully utilised to this end.

The successful outcome of the Summit, and guided by the UN Secretary-General's Statement of Action, will motivate Member States to proceed on a national and regional basis to adopt sustainable solutions and innovations to transform national food systems especially in the post-COVID world.

Member States' identified national commitments and priorities, regional specificities and voluntary coalitions formed, will assist in this transformation.

The UN Food Systems Summit process elaborated key aspects of transformation though it's identified five action tracks.

The valuable information gained through this process can be of assistance in the work of the Committee.

However, we need to recognise that food systems are complex and interconnected to all other aspects of life including the environment, animals and other key aspects necessary for human survival.

Therefore, as identified in the Secretary-General's Statement of Action, the focus of the UN Agencies, and specifically the Rome-based Agencies, is to support Member States to implement their

commitments and to coordinate the United Nation's action to advance the transformation of the food systems.

Furthermore, we need to draw on the strong foundations of science and traditional knowledge systems and share policy choices and practices that contribute to sustainable food systems.

In this context, the Committee through a structured approach, led by the Chair of the Committee and supported by the High Level Panel of Experts, could consider how the Committee could support the outcome of the Summit, and specifically how it's past reports, guidelines and recommendations could be integrated in the follow-up.

I thank you, Chairperson.