



Speaking elements

IV: The UN Food Systems Summit and its implications for CFS

Documents: [CFS 2021/49/INF/15 - The UN Food Systems Summit and its Implications for CFS \(fao.org\)](#) // [CFS 2021/49/7 - The UN Food System Summit and its Implications – Draft Conclusions \(fao.org\)](#)

The UN Food Systems Summit that took place three weeks ago confirmed that the vast majority of countries now recognize the need to transform our food systems.

And this with good reason:

- hunger is persisting despite significant productivity increases;
- micro-nutrient deficiencies as well as obesity-related diseases are on the rise.
- food systems are responsible for a large part of biodiversity loss and greenhouse gas emissions and;
- food waste remains high.

Transforming food systems towards more sustainability offers a real opportunity to contribute to the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as indeed food systems are closely linked to all Sustainable Development Goals.



Mr. Chair,

The UN Food Systems Summit is a major step towards the transformation of our food systems. It is now time to implement the results of the Summit or as Special Envoy, Agnes Kalibata, said “the hard work starts now!”

The UN Secretary-General outlined the support structure for the follow up of the Summit. He announced the creation of a joint coordination hub co-led by the Rome-based agencies, in collaboration with other UN and non-governmental organizations. He assigned responsibilities to the Resident Coordinators and UN country teams that will support countries in implementing their national pathways. In terms of accountability, the Secretary-General will report annually to the HLPF. He recognizes the CFS as an important platform to further food security and nutrition through sustainable and transformative food systems. And he expects the HLPE to work with the coordination hub to strengthen the science-policy interface and capacities.

While many details remain yet to be defined, Switzerland welcomes this set-up that builds on existing structures.

We propose that the CFS takes the following action as next steps to support the Summit follow up:

Firstly: The CFS should analyze how it can best contribute to provide leadership in the follow up of the Food Systems Summit as a



intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder body with its program of work and existing products. To do so, we suggest that the Committee at this session asks its Secretariat under the supervision of the Bureau to map existing products and workstreams against the action areas of the Summit. The Secretary should report back to the Committee at its next session.

Secondly: the CFS should welcome the additional new role assigned by the Secretary-General to the HLPE, which is focused on the 'transformation of food systems'. The Committee should invite the HLPE to share with us how it intends to support this international effort and to take up the work..

We suggest that the draft conclusion to be adopted by CFS49 address these two elements.

Time flies, let's get to work!

Thank you Chair.