



Statement on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States

49th Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

(11-14 October 2021)

Item VII: Monitoring CFS Policy Recommendations on Climate Change and Water

Madam/Mr Chair,

1. I am honoured to speak on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.
2. Climate change and water management are vital factors for sustainable food systems. The CFS Policy Recommendations on Climate Change and Water are highly relevant tools – along with other CFS products, including the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition and the Policy Recommendations on Agroecological and Other Innovative Approaches – for addressing the environmental, social and economic challenges that affect the 2030 Agenda sustainable development goals and threaten food security and nutrition.
3. We would stress the importance of raising awareness of these policy recommendations at all levels, together with the role of institutions and the inclusion and empowerment of all stakeholders in decision-making processes, including family farmers and smallholder food producers. We would further stress the importance of ensuring that gender equality, youth empowerment in the agri-food sector and in rural areas, and the development of other tools such as social protection and risk insurance, become an integral part of the implementation of the recommendations.
4. We also point out the importance, when tackling climate change challenges, of implementing integrated water and land management practices, and of adopting a range of locally-adapted sustainable technologies and practices that take into account local socio-economic and biophysical conditions. These elements, identified in the reference document, are particularly key in a food systems approach, bearing in mind the links between water, climate, food security and nutrition in production and consumption pathways.

5. We would further highlight the importance of the science-policy interface in organising capacity development activities under both sets of policy recommendations; these activities should be tailored to meeting local needs and knowledge gaps, whilst guiding and encouraging direct action by countries and development partners.
6. The EU and its Member States, guided by the European Green Deal and the EU's Farm to Fork Strategy, are fully committed to circular and sustainable management of water resources and to climate change mitigation, so as to ensure sustainable food production and improve living conditions, preserve the environment, create decent jobs, provide sustainable energy resources and contribute to healthy diets for all.
7. In this regard, we agree that broader and systematic dissemination, use and application of the two sets of policy recommendations, and related training, are needed at the global, regional, national, and sub-national and local levels, in order to attain our common goals on food security and nutrition, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you, Madam/Mr Chair.
