

CFS49 Statement: SUN Movement Youth Leaders for Nutrition

*Agenda item VI. Promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems
13 October 2021, 9.30-12.30 CEST, by delegate SUN Youth Leader for Nutrition Ms. Anayat Sidhu*

Distinguished delegates,

I am honoured to deliver this statement on behalf of the SUN Movement Youth Leaders for Nutrition. I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the land upon which I am residing today which is known as Treaty 7 territory. I acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries.

The SUN Movement's vision is to help achieve a world free from malnutrition in all its forms by 2030.

To reach this goal, it is important for youth to be included and amplified in these conversations and actions around nutrition. We last saw remarkable youth collaboration in the act4food act4change campaign launched in the lead-up to the UN Food Systems Summit and beyond. The act4food campaign and pledge were initiated out of the fact that while we as young people have been excluded from most political and economic decision-making processes, we are also the ones who will live the longest to face the consequences of decisions that are being made today.

Additionally, the involvement of youth like myself in the UN Food System Summit through a youth liaison group allowed for the continued empowerment of youth in becoming nutrition champions and hosting youth-led dialogues.

Therefore, to realize a world free from malnutrition in all its forms, the extraordinary potential of youth must be tapped into so that they can be mobilized to influence tangible and positive change around our world's food systems.

Youth engagement can be best achieved by those of you participating in the Committee on World Food Security through an ongoing and continuous emphasis on the importance of the role of youth in driving change around the nutrition agenda. Youth must be encouraged to be at the forefront in advocating for good nutrition, especially through showcasing good food habits and food choices that work towards shaping healthy diets for both youth and adolescents. Youth must be offered the opportunity to play an active role through nutrition advocacy and directly participating in food production as well as through the supply chains to ensure food security and nutrition for all.

Youth have the voice, the power, and the numbers to ensure that food systems are effective and efficient worldwide.

The time to act is now. Thank you.