

Statement CH – CFS49 – Youth Workstream

Thank you chair for the floor and Mr. Cole and Ms. Wittman for your introduction.

- Good Design must have the user in mind. In good design processes, the users are hence regularly included. This goes for any new mobile phone just as for our Food systems
- Switzerland strongly believes, that the young ones – the producers and consumers of tomorrow and today – must be an integral part of the design-process of our future food systems.
- The Youth Workstream is an opportunity to do just that. For the process being successful, Switzerland considers it important, that youth participates and has a strong voice, specifically because their place in the future of food systems is discussed.
- Young people come with special capabilities and experiences. They bring among many other things fresh minds that often think in continuums and symbiosis where borders used to be perceived, for example between urban and rural communities or between agronomy and ecology. Or sectors: their professional experience is often marked by multiprofessionalism, cooperative approaches as well as mobility between sectors.
- The policy recommendations resulting from the youth workstream should provide answers on how to render agriculture and food value chains a more attractive sector for engagement, particularly with regard to two questions:
 - First, what needs to be done to strengthen intergenerational work patterns and to ensure that renewed traditions in food systems are mainstreamed?
 - Secondly how can young people be supported in their attempt to access resources – be it education, land, investment or market intelligence?
- Switzerland hopes to see this in the resulting policy recommendations and embraced during the upcoming negotiations: we look forward to negotiate based on and without loosing sight of what unites us instead of what divides us.
- Thank you, Mr. Chair.