

**SWITZERLAND – STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM III:
EMPOWERING WOMEN AND GIRLS AND PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY.
ENDORSEMENT AND UPTAKE OF THE CFS VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON
GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT IN THE
CONTEXT OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION**

Mr. Chair,

- Switzerland thanks the Open Ended Working Group Co-Chairs and the CFS Chair for their engagement in the preparation of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition (VG on GEWGE).
- We regret that the plenary cannot adopt the VG on GEWGE today.
- Switzerland supports the continuation of the process, based on the importance of gender equality to support the transformation of more inclusive, sustainable and resilient food systems as approved by the CFS 47 in 2021.
- Evidence based dialogues with experts on the controversial topics should be part of this process.
- The use of agreed UN language is a minimum.
- We support the way forward as proposed by the CFS Chair.
- We look forward to working together with all CFS stakeholders to find consensus on such an important topic and to adopt the VGs at the CFS 51 plenary session.