



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

50th Committee on World Food Security

(10-13 October 2022)

Item VII: Boosting responsible investment in sustainable agriculture and food systems

Madam/Mr Chair,

1. I am honoured to speak on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.
2. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Türkiye, Serbia and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.
3. We would like to thank the CFS for organising this High Level Event with a focus on boosting responsible investment in sustainable agriculture and food systems, and for giving us the opportunity to revisit one of the most successful CFS products – the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (the CFS-RAI Principles).
4. [We would also like to thank the speakers for their insightful presentations and interesting discussion.]
5. We found the background document useful, and we can support many of the conclusions drawn there. It was particularly interesting to review the conclusions on what qualitative results, such as awareness raising and capacity building, were reported. The reported key catalysts, as well as the reported key constraints and challenges, provide a good basis for continued improvements in the uptake of responsible agriculture investment (CFS-RAI Principles).

6. The EU and its Member States note that the main principles mentioned in the feedback on the contribution made by the CFS-RAI Principles were ‘Principle 1: Contribute to food security and nutrition’, ‘Principle 2: Contribute to sustainable and inclusive economic development and the eradication of poverty’ and ‘Principle 8: Promote safe and healthy agriculture and food systems’. This indicates that the overall objective of the CFS-RAI Principles has been achieved.
7. We also note that ‘Principle 3: Foster gender equality and women’s empowerment’, ‘Principle 4: Engage and empower youth’ and ‘Principle 5: Respect tenure of land, fisheries, and forests, and access to water’, were also well represented. We hope that there will be more effort to follow the other principles too, since all CFS-RAI Principles are important.
8. The background document highlights many examples of efforts aimed at improving and increasing responsible investments in agriculture and food systems. It is clear, however, that more needs to be done in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda. We therefore support the proposal for additional efforts to promote a broader and systematic dissemination of the CFS-RAI Principles, preferably through an inclusive multi-stakeholder approach and on all levels.
9. We also support the request that CFS should identify actionable steps to enhance the monitoring of Responsible Investments in Agriculture and Food Systems and financing for SDG 2, in time for the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the CFS-RAI Principles.

Thank you, Madam/Mr Chair!