



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

50th Committee on World Food Security

(10-13 October 2022)

Item V: Data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition

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, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.
3. We would like to express our deep appreciation for the report produced by the High Level Panel of Experts on data collection and analysis tools for food security and nutrition [and we wish to thank X +Y] for their thorough presentation of the report.
4. Reliable, quality data is fundamental to well-informed, transparent and democratic decision making by public and private agents. Never in history has the amount and availability of data been higher than now. The potential in this field is vast, and we underline its importance for improving food security and nutrition, and its role in overcoming other challenges such as the effects of climate change and environmental degradation.
5. However, what is still lacking is a coherent picture of where we stand in addressing global hunger and malnutrition in all its forms. Informed decision-making requires evidence-based, neutral and contextualised data and information. It also requires the capacities to analyse and interpret data and information. Yet, as the report highlights, available data, access to it, and the capacity to process and transform it into policy and action, are unequal. In order to achieve sustainable development – in all its dimensions – gaps need to be addressed and closed. These data gaps may concern countries, all levels of management, but also individuals and marginalised groups. It is also relevant to consider what type of data is produced, for whom it is produced and how it is disaggregated.
6. Data collection should follow common standards and principles in a way that makes it useful and usable as a global public good for food security and nutrition. We have to jointly promote food security and nutrition data collection and analysis, and close strategic data gaps. We also need to build an effective institutional environment for food

security and nutrition monitoring, promote the development of national and regional disaggregated food security information systems, and foster relevant capacity development. We also need to exchange closely with other initiatives working on a coherent picture on food security and nutrition, such as the Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS).

7. Both the vast amount of data and the new technologies available need to be handled in a legally sound way. As relevant as data collection and processing may be, personal integrity must be protected. Comprehensive rules on data governance are therefore essential, both in a national and international context.
8. We appreciate the fact that the report dives into these complex issues and we look forward to discussing them further within the CFS Policy Convergence Process in the months to come. We should dedicate adequate time to developing the upcoming CFS product to ensure that all voices are heard, and that an inclusive process is facilitated. It is important that the CFS continues to work on ambitious texts, based on UN agreed language, and that all stakeholders seek consensus.

Thank you, Madam/Mr Chair!