

Statement on behalf of HUNGARY

**To be delivered by dr. Oszkár Ökrös, Deputy State Secretary
at the 53rd Session of the CFS (Rome, 20-22 October, 2025)**

Madame Chair,

Dear esteemed representatives,

On behalf of the Hungarian Government, I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to address the 53rd Session of the CFS. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2025* report is a comprehensive analysis, which offers an invaluable lens through which we can assess our progress and challenges related to food security and nutrition.

The report highlights that, despite global advances, food insecurity remains a pressing challenge, exacerbated by factors such as extreme weather events, food price surges and recent geopolitical disruptions. For Hungary, this calls for a dual focus: strengthening domestic agricultural resilience and ensuring equitable access to nutritious food for all our citizens. Enhancing food supply chain resilience is also essential in the face of recent supply disruptions.

The report emphasizes that ending malnutrition is foundational to the achievement of nearly all the Sustainable Development Goals. Malnutrition and overweight often start with inadequate food consumption. In Hungary, it is estimated that some 28 % of all deaths may be attributed to dietary risks, including low fruit and vegetable intake, and high sugar, fat and salt consumption. This problem demands integrated strategies that promote balanced diets, support local food systems, and encourage healthy lifestyle choices.

The report's sobering estimate that between 638 and 720 million people worldwide faced hunger in 2024—particularly the 307 million affected in Africa,—underscores the persistent and disproportionate burden of food insecurity faced by the African region. Despite a hopeful decline in global hunger numbers since 2022, the projection that 512 million people will still suffer from hunger by 2030, with nearly 60 percent residing in Africa, highlights an urgent need for sustained and targeted action.

We recognize this challenge as a critical aspect of its international development policy, particularly in Africa. As part of its commitment to global food security and sustainable development, Hungary has been actively involved in supporting agricultural development, capacity building, and nutrition programs across several African countries. The Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary has launched the MoA-FAO Scholarship Program in 2008, which was conceived as a tool for capacity building in low income or lower-middle income countries, with a

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particular focus on Africa. Beyond scholarships, an agricultural training program for agricultural extension service agents was launched in Uganda in 2017. The main goal of the project is to simultaneously help to make family farms viable, decrease migration, sustain agro-biodiversity, and to enhance the effectiveness of knowledge and technology transfer from Hungary to Uganda. Encouraged by the success in Uganda, we have also launched a pilot program in Ghana in 2025 and we intend to implement another project in Tanzania in 2026, based on our proven training framework. We firmly believe that local, practice-oriented education offers immediate, tangible benefits and strengthens long-term food security and climate resilience in Africa's rural economies.

Last, but not least, Hungary firmly believes that lasting peace is essential foundation for achieving global food security. As long as wars continue to disrupt food systems, the world's most vulnerable populations will remain at risk of hunger and malnutrition. Hungary's foreign policy is therefore anchored in the principle that diplomacy, conflict prevention, and peaceful resolution must go hand-in-hand with humanitarian aid and development assistance. Whether through stabilizing trade routes, supporting African agricultural development, or contributing to international peace-building frameworks, Hungary remains committed to addressing the root causes of hunger—beginning with peace.

In conclusion, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2025* report not only underscores global challenges but also inspires targeted action. We stand ready to translate these insights into concrete actions that safeguard food security and improve nutrition for all. Together, through shared knowledge and concerted effort, we can build a future where no one left behind in the pursuit of health and well-being.

Thank you.