

STATEMENT HON. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION - LESOTHO

Chairperson, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

The Kingdom of Lesotho is honoured to join this fifty-third session of the Committee on World Food Security. We thank the CFS for bringing us together at a time when global food systems face growing challenges from climate change, economic shocks, and conflict.

In Lesotho, we have learned that food security cannot be achieved by one ministry or one sector alone. It takes *coordination, partnerships, and shared responsibility*. Our **Food and Nutrition Coordination Office** now brings together key ministries — agriculture, health, education, trade, and social development — to plan and act together. This integrated approach is helping us strengthen resilience, promote climate-smart agriculture, and improve nutrition outcomes for our people.

We are also deepening collaboration at regional level through **SADC** and the **African Union's CAADP** framework — sharing knowledge, early warning systems, and working to open markets for our farmers, especially women and youth.

But coordination must lead to *real impact*. We therefore call for greater investment in local solutions — particularly in smallholder farming, value-chain development, and climate adaptation. Tools developed by the CFS, such as the **Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition**, remain vital in guiding our efforts.

Chairperson,

As we move toward 2030, we must work together to turn good policies into practical actions that leave no one behind. Lesotho stands ready to partner with all stakeholders in building resilient and inclusive food systems that nourish our people and protect our planet. **I thank you Chair.**

