

## Statement of Ukraine

### 53rd Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

**Dear Chair, distinguished delegates,**

On behalf of the Government of Ukraine, I would like to express my gratitude to the Committee on World Food Security for its leadership in promoting global efforts to strengthen food resilience and ensure the availability of food for all.

Allow me also to extend our congratulations to the FAO on its 80th anniversary. Eight decades of tireless work to combat hunger, develop agricultural potential, and advance global food security. In the years ahead, we firmly believe that our collective efforts will bring us closer to a world free from hunger — a world where every nation can realize its agricultural potential, and where food security serves as a cornerstone for peace and sustainable development.

For Ukraine, FAO is a reliable and valued partner, especially today, as we maintain agricultural production even in the midst of war. Ukraine remains the world's leading exporter of sunflower oil: every third bottle of sunflower oil in the world is Ukrainian.

Despite Russia's full-scale aggression, Ukraine continues to fulfil its mission as a pillar of global food security. With FAO's support, rural communities in liberated areas are being restored, and Ukrainian farmers continue to sustain production, access inputs, and obtain machinery.

We deeply value our joint projects aimed at enhancing the resilience of rural areas and advancing post-demining efforts to restore agricultural lands.

In 2022, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy launched the humanitarian initiative "Grain from Ukraine." To date, more than 300,000 tons of agricultural products have been delivered to 18 countries most in need — and this is only the beginning. Ukraine stands ready to expand these efforts through the "Food from Ukraine" initiative, sharing our expertise in agricultural technologies, food processing, and sustainable land cultivation.

This initiative clearly demonstrates that even under attack, Ukraine does not retreat from its responsibility. We remain a trusted partner, a global food supplier, and a firm defender of the principle that no nation should ever be held hostage to hunger.

We also take note of the *State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2025* report and express our appreciation for its valuable insights. At the same time, we wish to draw attention to the joint letter submitted to the Rome-based UN Agencies, which outlines key considerations regarding the underlying causes of the global rise in food prices. As highlighted in that letter, the restrictive measures adopted by many countries in response to Russia's violation of the UN Charter are lawful and do not target food or fertilizers.

Let me be clear: the single largest driver of the current food crisis remains the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine. The destruction of agricultural infrastructure, mined farmland, targeted energy facilities, and recurring blockades of Black Sea ports have severely affected production, trade, and household food security in Ukraine, with ripple effects across Europe and globally.

Analyses that blur the distinction between the aggressor and the victim risk misdiagnosing the crisis and leading to weak or misguided policy responses.

We firmly believe that the future of global food security depends on our unity, foresight, and shared determination to act together.

**Thank you.**