

CFS OEWG on Nutrition, 8 March 2019

Written comments from the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Secretariat

- Thanks for the opportunity to share written comments on behalf of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Secretariat. We are pleased to participate in this important CFS process developing Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition.
- We thank the Chair of the OEWG, the Technical Task Team and the CFS Secretariat for their work and appreciate the efforts that have gone into the preparation of the preliminary version of the Zero Draft of the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition.
- We welcome and support the overall direction of the preliminary version of the Zero Draft, which provides guidance on reshaping food systems that improve nutrition and enable healthy diets through a comprehensive and multi-sectoral approach.
- We feel it would be important to refer to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the beginning of the document, to set the right context and reflect that we are now in the SDG era, and make a strong link to sustainability aspects. The core principles underpinning the 2030 Agenda serve as relevant basis for the Voluntary Guidelines: Universality, Leaving no one behind, interconnectedness and indivisibility, inclusiveness and multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- We would like to suggest that the Voluntary Guidelines do not only focus on promoting *policy* changes, but also *institutional* and *behavior changes* which support transformation of food systems towards better nutrition. This should be considered in the rationale. To achieve institutional change, *government ownership* is absolutely critical.
- We encourage to not only make the linkages between food systems and nutrition, but stress further the linkages between food systems and *sustainability* (for example in paragraph 4). It is crucial that we change our food systems for better health of *people and the planet*. We want to achieve healthy *and* sustainable diets.
- The Voluntary Guidelines should apply a strong human rights-based approach, and therefore include the most vulnerable to malnutrition in all its forms. Hence, the scope of the Voluntary Guidelines should cover both food systems in stable as well as in crises contexts.
- The policy relevant areas, outlined in Chapter 3, seem to be a comprehensive list. We would welcome here a stronger focus on the systemic approach and *how* this can be implemented by the different stakeholders.
- We feel aspects of gender equality and women empowerment need to be considered throughout the Voluntary Guidelines.
- We believe it is important for the Voluntary Guidelines to become a tool for *all* relevant stakeholder groups. To advance progress on policy coherence, clearly governments – at all levels

– should be in the focus. However, we will only succeed in reshaping our food systems if all stakeholder groups participate actively and change their behaviors.

- The SUN Movement Secretariat is happy to inform the Movement’s stakeholders about the CFS process and encourage them, especially the SUN Government Focal Points, to participate actively and share their views throughout the consultation process, in particular the regional and online consultations.
