

CFS VGFSyN
THIRD ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS – 25-26 AND 28-29 JANUARY 2021

**DOCUMENT WITH PARAGRAPHS THAT WERE DISCUSSED DURING FRIENDS OF THE
CHAIR MEETINGS HELD BETWEEN 18 AND 21 JANUARY**

13. Climate change, agriculture, food systems, diets and nutrition are interconnected. Climate change affects temperature and precipitation, as well as the frequency and severity of weather events. Increases in temperature, heat waves, droughts, floods, cyclones, forest fires and land degradations negatively impact agriculture, including through amongst others decreased crop yields and livestock productivity, as well as declines in fisheries and aquaculture and agroforestry production in areas already vulnerable to food insecurity. Climate change also affects all the dimensions of food security, as well as food quantity, quality, safety and ultimately food prices, with significant implications for the availability of and access to healthy diets. Climate change can also contribute to changing nutrient composition of major staple crops, including decreases in proteins, and some essential minerals and vitamins. [While agriculture is not the [only or] preeminent [emitter] [source] of GHG emissions,] agricultural and food production and consumption as well as current [fashion] dietary trends [and distorting subsidies and incentives for food production] contribute, at different levels [in accordance with article 4 of Parties Agreement and Principle 7 of the Rio Declaration], to the total emissions of greenhouse gases and other environmental [impacts, including on water availability and quality and biodiversity through land conversion] [degradation such as fresh water use and land use changes]. On the other hand, [it is a sector that has the potential to reduce significantly its emissions.] Agricultural and forestry activities of [sustainable] food systems can contribute to the sequestration of carbon in the soil and to the maintenance of healthy ecosystems and biodiversity. *[pending brackets to be discussed]*

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR BRACKETED TEXT IN PARA 13: While agriculture is not the preeminent emitter of GHG emissions, agriculture and food production and consumption [influenced by food and dietary choices, [consumer behaviour and food environments,] [as well as consumption and [current] [some] [dietary] [food production and consumption] trends] contribute, amongst others, to the total of greenhouse gases and other environmental impacts[,][.] [including on water quality, quantity and availability, biodiversity and land use changes]. Agricultural and forestry activities of sustainable food systems can contribute to the sequestration of carbon in the soil and to the maintenance of healthy ecosystems and biodiversity] *[pending brackets to be discussed]*

14. Biodiversity for food and agriculture is important as a safeguard against hunger, a source of nutrients for improved dietary diversity and quality, and strengthening sustainable food systems. [[In the long term,] [Enhancing the sustainability of food systems and their resilience

is thus a [precondition][contribution] [fundamental] for healthy diets [for all][for current and future generations]. [In the long term,] Enhancing biodiversity for food and agriculture [enhances][contributes to] the sustainability of food systems and their resilience thus [contributing to] [safeguarding] [enabling] healthy diets [for current and future generations].
[pending brackets to be discussed]

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR PARA 14: Biodiversity for food and agriculture is important as a safeguard against hunger, a source of nutrients for improved dietary diversity and quality, and strengthening sustainable food systems. Enhancing biodiversity for food and agriculture enhances the sustainability of food systems and their resilience as well as safeguards healthy diets for current and future generations. As described in paragraph 18 healthy diets and sustainable food systems are interlinked in complex and multidimensional ways. Enhancing the sustainability of food systems and their resilience plays a fundamental role for healthy diets for all and is part of the key concept of healthy diets through sustainable food systems as described in paragraph 18.]

17. Healthy diets are those diets that are of adequate quantity and quality to achieve optimal growth and development of all individuals and support functioning and physical, mental and social wellbeing at all life stages and physiological needs. Healthy diets are safe, diverse, balanced, and based on nutritious foods. They help to protect against malnutrition in all its forms, including undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity and lower the risk of diet-related non-communicable diseases. The exact make-up of healthy diets varies depending on an individual's characteristics (e.g. age, gender, lifestyle and degree of physical activity), geographical, demographical, cultural patterns and contexts, food preferences, availability of foods from local, regional and international sources, and dietary customs. Healthy dietary practices start early in life – breastfeeding fosters healthy growth and improves cognitive development and has long-term health benefits. WHO publishes guidance for healthy diets¹. Many national health authorities publish specific dietary guidance. Regional health organizations, where applicable, may publish documents related to healthy diets and specific dietary advice as well². [*informally agreed by FoC*]

19. Nutritious foods are safe foods that contribute essential nutrients such as vitamins and minerals (micronutrients), fibre and other components to healthy diets that are beneficial for growth, health and development, guarding against malnutrition. In nutritious foods, the presence of nutrients of public health concern is minimized. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

[CHAIR'S REMARKS: pending discussion on 323.f, OEWG members might want to consider the inclusion of the list of categories of nutritious food categories proposed in that paragraph]

¹ WHO guidance for a diet to be healthy [are available at https://www.who.int/who-documents-detail/healthy-diet-factsheet394](https://www.who.int/who-documents-detail/healthy-diet-factsheet394)

² The VGFSyN does not reference any specific dietary guidance from those regional organizations.

(fruits and vegetables, legumes and pulses, whole grains and roots and tubers, seeds and nuts, and animal source foods)]

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR PARA 20: Unhealthy diets are a major risk factor of multiple forms of malnutrition and poor health outcomes globally. Unhealthy diets include those of insufficient quantity and quality of nutrients and are a driver of hunger, micronutrient deficiency and undernutrition. Furthermore, unhealthy diets relate to the excessive intake of food and beverages high in fat, [especially] saturated [(footnote 1)] and trans-fats, sugars and salt/sodium (footnote 2), which [can have an impact on] [may be associated with an] increased risk of overweight, and to higher susceptibility to obesity and diet-related NCDs.

[(footnote 1: Nutrition science is constantly evolving, including regarding properties [and][,] risks [and benefits] associated to saturated fats. [Some studies, for instance, examine the heterogeneity of saturated fats, including the differential effects of different saturated fats on biomarkers associated with diseases. In addition, the proven health benefits of the food should be considered when making recommendations to limit saturated fats.])] [ALT: Research continues to develop the understanding of the properties [and][,] risks [and benefits] associated with all nutrients.]

(footnote 2: [Rome Declaration on Nutrition](#), ICN 2 (2014) – paragraph 7.)] [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

21. Food systems shape people's dietary patterns and nutritional status. Food systems are complex and multidimensional webs of activities, resources and actors involving the production, processing, handling, preparation, storage, distribution, marketing, access, purchase, consumption, and loss and waste of food, and the outputs of these activities, including social, economic and environmental outcomes. Food systems are constantly being shaped by different forces, drivers and structural changes and decisions by many different stakeholders that could affect their sustainability. Sustainable food systems have a fundamental role to play in promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition and enabling other public objectives of food systems. Sustainable food systems are food systems that enable food safety, food security and nutrition for current and future generations in accordance with the three dimensions (economic, social and environmental) of sustainable development. Sustainable food systems must be inclusive, equitable and resilient. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

29. The VGFSyN are expected to contribute to and complement these international initiatives with a view to promoting policy coherence, coordination and convergence across different domains. They provide science and evidence-based guidance to help countries and other

relevant stakeholders operationalize ICN2's Framework for Action³ recommendations in support of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, [and other relevant rights which are reflected in the documents listed in paragraph 39,][with implications for physical and mental health as well as development] [the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health⁴], [right of development [footnote: UNGA Resolution 41/28 (1986),] [right to the highest attainable standard of health,] and to achieve the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR BRACKETED TEXT: Replace text in brackets by: "and in the implementation of instruments as referred to in paragraph 39"]

NEW PARA 30.bis: The VGFSyN are intended to support the implementation of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) with the objective of increasing the visibility, coordination and effectiveness of nutrition actions at all levels, as key aspects toward the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

33. The VGFSyN recognize that shocks, economic, social and environmental crises and pandemics present strong challenges to the functioning of food systems, and emphasize the importance of sustainable and resilient food systems [, for example through [a range of sustainable, innovative approaches including agroecology, sustainable intensification, non-till farming and all other innovations and technologies to promote sustainable food systems [CL/164,Rev, para 15.h]] [ALT.1 agroecological and other innovative approaches] [ALT.2 agroecological and other innovative approaches such as sustainable intensification, non-till farming and all other innovations and technologies to promote sustainable food systems]. The VGFSyN provide guidance to minimize potential negative impacts on food systems and food security and nutrition. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

[CHAIR'S REMARKS: the reference to 'including agroecological and other innovative approaches' is mentioned in three paragraphs, this one, 3.2.1.b and 3.2.2.c.

Internationally we have 3 sets of agreed languages referring to agroecology:

- agroecological and other innovative approaches (CFS)
- a range of sustainable, innovative approaches including agroecology, sustainable intensification, non-till farming and all other innovations and technologies to promote sustainable food systems (FAO: CL/164,Rev, para 15.h)
- including agroforestry, agroecology, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought- and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management (UNGA Resolution A/c.2/75/L.31, November 2020)

[

³ FAO/WHO. 2014. ICN2, [Framework for Action](#).

⁴ [General Comment N.14](#) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2000).

During the negotiations in the Group of Friends a compromise proposal from EU and US emerged, which reads as follows:

[, for example a range of sustainable, innovative approaches including mainstreaming biodiversity across agricultural sectors, agroecology, sustainable intensification, non-till farming and all other innovations and technologies to promote sustainable food systems] [Footnote: Further information on agroecological and other innovations can be found in the expert publication HLPE on Agroecological approaches and other innovations for food security and nutrition, and will be addressed in the CFS policy convergence process on Agroecological approaches and other innovations for food security and nutrition]

39. The VGFSyN are intended to be applied, in accordance with the following instruments [as far as each of these instruments are relevant to and binding for their respective parties:] [as far as each of these instruments are relevant and applicable to [their respective parties] [each member state]:]

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights – adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1948 and human rights treaties which are binding for the respective State Parties;
- [International Covenant on Social, Economic and Cultural Rights](#);
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP);
- [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP);]
- UN Resolution A/RES/70/259, United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025);
- United Nations Declaration on the Right to Development;
- ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work;
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD);
- Convention on Biological Diversity;
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;
- International Plant Protection Convention;
- [International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;]
- FAO/WHO International Code of Conduct on Pesticides Management;
- Standards, guidelines and recommendations adopted by the Codex Alimentarius, World Organization for Animal Health, OIE and the IPPC;
- Relevant international multilateral trade instruments, including WTO agreements such as WTO Technical Barriers to Trade agreement (TBT) and WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS). [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR CHAPEAU OF PARA 39: The VGFSyN are intended to be applied, in accordance with the following instruments as far as each of these instruments are relevant and applicable to their respective parties and other entities:]

40. The VGFSyN are intended to support governments, including relevant ministries and national, sub-national, and local institutions and authorities, and parliamentarians, to develop processes for the design and implementation of holistic, multisectoral, science and evidence-based and inclusive public policies as well as to be used in policy discussions and implementation processes by relevant stakeholders such as:

- a) Intergovernmental and regional organizations, including specialized UN agencies;
 - b) Civil society and non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, vulnerable groups, rural women and young people, smallholders⁵ [/peasants], family farmers [including peasants], fisher folks, pastoralists, landless and food system workers⁶;
 - c) Farmers, rangers, pastoralist and fisher folks as well as their organizations, cooperatives and networks;
[alt b and c: Civil society and non governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, vulnerable groups, rural women and young people, smallholders, [peasants,] family farmers [including peasants], fisherfolks, pastoralists, farmers, rangers as well as their organizations, cooperatives and networks and landless and food system workers;]
[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR BULLET B: Civil society and non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, vulnerable groups, rural women and young people, smallholders⁷, family farmers including peasants (footnote), fisher folks, pastoralists, landless and food system workers⁸;
[Footnote: FAO and IFAD definition is: "family farming refers to all types of family-based production models in agriculture, fishery forestry, pastoral and aquaculture, and include peasants, indigenous peoples, traditional communities, fisher folks, mountain farmers, forest users and pastoralists."
<http://www.fao.org/3/ca4672en/ca4672en.pdf>
- d) Private sector organizations, including but not limited to small and medium enterprises, agribusiness, food and beverage manufacturers, food retailers including supermarkets, food service providers, industry trade associations, food wholesalers, food distributors, traders, and the advertising and marketing sector⁹;
 - e) Research organizations, academic institutions, and universities;
 - f) Development partners, including international financial institutions;
 - g) Private donors, foundations, and funds;

⁵ "Smallholders, including those that are family farmers – women and men – include those that are small-scale producers and processors, pastoralists, artisans, fishers, community closely dependant on forests, indigenous peoples and agricultural workers", CFS policy recommendations on Connecting Smallholders to Markets (2016).

⁶ Smallholders, fisherfolks, pastoralists are included in the civil society when they retain the complex status as food producers, workers and consumers

⁷ "Smallholders, including those that are family farmers – women and men – include those that are small-scale producers and processors, pastoralists, artisans, fishers, community closely dependant on forests, indigenous peoples and agricultural workers", CFS policy recommendations on Connecting Smallholders to Markets (2016).

⁸ Smallholders, fisherfolks, pastoralists are included in the civil society when they retain the complex status as food producers, workers and consumers

⁹ The private sector is made up of many different types of companies with a wide range of sizes, scales, human and financial resources, as well as varying reach into local, domestic and international markets.

h) Consumer associations. *[pending brackets to be discussed]*

43. In implementing the VGFSyN governments are urged to correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round¹⁰.
[informally agreed by FoC]

46.e - Gender equality and women's empowerment. Promote equitable access to sufficient, safe and nutritious foods that meet dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life independent of social or demographic factors such as race, gender, income or geographic region. Promote gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment, and respect, protect and fulfill their rights in the context of food security and nutrition, creating the conditions for women's involvement in decision-making as well as their participation in all economic, political and social sectors and strong engagement in shaping sustainable food systems that improve nutrition, recognizing their critical role in care, education, agriculture, health promotion and food production and consumption. This may entail targeted strategies to support women in their existing roles in areas such as care, education, agriculture, health promotion and food preparation, production, consumption and preservation of indigenous, traditional and local knowledge. However, it also requires changes in business as usual to actively engage men and boys to promote nutrition as a joint household responsibility.
[informally agreed by FoC]

[ORIGINAL CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR PARA 48: To achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and its Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account other international [commitments and] obligations [and commitments], [amongst others relevant World Health Assembly (WHA) resolutions and decisions,] as well as to fulfill national commitments to end malnutrition in all its forms, in accordance with the three dimensions of sustainable development [while safeguarding [limited] [and depleting] natural resources [,economic growth and social wellbeing]], a food systems approach is needed that recognizes that the various parts that make up food systems are interconnected. Any action or decision to address one aspect of a food system will likely impact other aspects, and food systems respond and are impacted by other systems, situations, and contexts. Thinking systematically and interdisciplinarily about the process towards achieving sustainable food systems, recalling that transformation of food systems should be encouraged in a coherent manner, as appropriate and in accordance with and dependent on national contexts and capacities, can foster that challenges are tackled from multiple perspectives. Thus, the VGFSyN provide guidance on a range of science and evidence-based policy actions spanning the diversity of

¹⁰ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 2.b

food supply chains, food environment and responsible consumption, as well as the drivers and people that shape those actions. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

[**CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR FIRST PART OF PARA 48 (AFTER FoC)**: To achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and its Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account other international commitments and obligations, amongst others relevant World Health Assembly (WHA) resolutions and decisions (footnote), as well as to fulfill national commitments to end malnutrition in all its forms, in accordance with the three dimensions of sustainable development while safeguarding natural resources, economic growth and social wellbeing, a food systems approach is needed that recognizes that the various parts that make up food systems are interconnected.]

[Footnote proposed by UN Nutrition: As reflected in the updated Appendix 3 to the Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs 2013-2020, Resolution WHA 70.11 para 1 and Annex 3.]

51. The guidance is principally addressed to governments who should consider it in relation to national and sub-national priorities, needs and conditions, and assess the relevance of the policy in each food system contexts, paying due attention to all direct and indirect costs or benefits of economic, social and environmental impacts. It is important for countries to implement a diagnostic lens to their food systems in a systematic and holistic way. This would entail, amongst others, understanding the types of food systems that exist, the make-up and complexity of their food systems, and the major drivers for change, disruption, exclusion/inclusion and growth. With the aim to achieve sustainable food systems and healthy diets in accordance with the Agenda 2030, Governments are encouraged to systemically analyze and monitor costs, benefits, trade-offs, and impacts of their actions, across sectors and actors within their own context of economic, socio-cultural and environmental conditions and objectives. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

3.1.1.b - Governments should integrate and promote sustainable food system strategies and actions that enable healthy diets and improved nutrition into national and local development, health, economic, agricultural, climate/environment, and disaster risk and pandemic diseases reduction policies. Governments should consider increased and improved budgetary allocations, where appropriate, to food system activities and components, assessing and taking into account all positive and negative environmental, economic and social impacts of the various food systems activities and components, considering, as appropriate, indicators of the 2030 Agenda, with clear and transparent objectives of improving diets and nutrition, to address malnutrition in all its forms. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

3.1.1.c - Acknowledging that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable, multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing

countries and contribute to achieving food security and improving nutrition¹¹. Also, governments, intergovernmental and regional organizations should implement national, regional and international strategies to promote the inclusive participation of farmers and fishers and fish workers, including small-scale farmers, indigenous peoples and local communities, peasants and other small-scale food producers, food systems workers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets¹². [informally agreed by FoC]

53. Food supply chains play a crucial role in human health, and resilience and economic, social and environmental sustainability of food systems, including ecosystem restoration. Food supply chains - from production, storage and post-harvest handling, processing and packaging, distribution to the point of consumption, and marketing - operate at multiple and assorted scales, structures, and levels, from simple to highly complex, from local to global, involving many food system actors. The decisions made by the actors at any stage have implications on the availability, affordability, accessibility, acceptability and safety of nutritious food for healthy diets¹³. This section complements the goals outlined in the UN Decade of Family Farming and highlights the importance of promoting nutrition across the food supply chain, and suggests ways to create sustainable and resilient food supply chains and sustainable consumption and production in the midst of climate change and natural resource degradation, recalling the need to simultaneously take into account the economic, environmental, and social dimensions of sustainability and the health of individuals, animals, plants and ecosystems in a One Health Approach. The VGFSyN should serve governments and other stakeholders to strengthen vulnerable local producers as well as smallholders and family farmers, including in their involvement in food supply chains. [informally agreed by FoC]

3.2.1.b - Governments, intergovernmental organizations, private sector, civil society and other relevant stakeholders should promote sustainable agriculture [such as] [agroecology and other innovative approaches] at different scales [in the process towards achieving] [in order to achieve] sustainable food systems that enhance food security and nutrition. They also should collaborate with and support farmers and other food producers to reduce the environmental impact of food systems, enhancing also biodiversity and recognizing the positive efforts of farmers that adopt sustainable practices. This could be done by fostering the adoption of appropriate sustainable technology and on-farm management practices to optimize the efficiency of crop production yields and to [promote responsible and sustainable] [reduce the] use [and, where feasible, the reduction] of [and the promotion of bioinputs for agriculture such as biopesticides and biofertilizers] pesticides and [chemical] fertilizers. Governments should promote optimization of agricultural outputs per unit of water, soil, energy, labor and land, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity loss, and natural resource degradation (including deforestation), in accordance with their

¹¹ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 17.10

¹² UNGA resolution A/c.2/75/i.23, paragraph 31.

¹³ As described in paragraphs 17 and 18.

Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement, and other relevant national planning instruments. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

3.2.1.d - Governments, research organizations, academic institutions, and universities should promote the generation and use of science and evidence-based knowledge, including indigenous, and traditional and local knowledge, that demonstrate climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience strategies for sustainable food systems and enabling healthy diets. Research should be science and evidence-based, open to local and traditional knowledge, include safeguards for the identification and management of possible conflicts of interest. Research should focus on potential interventions and policy entry points to ensure sustainable agricultural production and productivity including in terms of nutrition, including practices that enhance the resilience of food supply chains, improve livelihoods and promote carbon sequestration, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, processing and packaging, retail and markets, market access and responsible consumption, contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as to reduce negative environmental impacts and protect, conserve, sustainably manage and use natural resources. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

3.2.3.e - Governments should support market information systems that provide timely, accessible, transparent information about food-related market transactions, including enhanced tracking of current and future supply stocks and price data including for local and territorial markets, where possible and appropriate. Governments should support agricultural economic research on topics which may include trade and impacts of government policies. Further monitoring and market studies on underreported commodities including those with a major impact on nutrition and neglected and underutilized crops[, as well as related trade policies that could restrict market access,] should also be developed. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

3.2.3.f - Governments, private sector, donors and other relevant stakeholders should invest in research, knowledge transfer and innovation for producing diversified nutritious crops, such as whole grains, [including rice, roots and tuber crops, wheat and rye] [biofortified crops including high yield and pest resistant varieties,] fruit, vegetables, nuts and seeds, legumes, including [, where appropriate,] [through on-farm] [conventional breeding of] nutrient-enriched staples or crops and diverse animal-source foods [and breeding] (e.g. dairy products, fish, eggs, and meat). [footnote] [ALT: nutritious crops, such as whole grains, fruit, vegetables, nuts and seeds, legumes, including nutrient-enriched staples or crops [(through conventional breeding)] and diverse animal-source foods] [ALT: nutritious crops, such as whole grains, fruit, vegetables, nuts and seeds, legumes, including breeding of staple crops to increase the nutrient content and diverse livestock, and fish and other aquatic organisms] [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

[**CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR 3.2.3.F:** Governments, private sector, donors and other relevant stakeholders should invest in research, knowledge transfer and innovation for producing

diversified nutritious foods, such as fruits and vegetables, legumes and pulses, whole grains and roots and tubers, seeds and nuts, and animal source foods.]

3.2.3.g - Governments should promote strategies, guidelines or instruments that support appropriate measures to enable healthy diets, in accordance with paragraph 17, and promote nutrition within agriculture and food supply chains taking into account WHA Resolutions 57.17¹⁴, paragraph 22, and 66.10¹⁵ as well as national legislations, contexts and capacities.
[informally agreed by FoC]

3.2.4.c - Governments, private sector and research centers should support research, development and scaling up the use of innovative processing technologies and practices in accordance with the three dimensions of sustainable development that can retain the nutrient content of food, minimize post-harvest nutrient losses, create, where appropriate, new value added products from food processing by-products, and promote longer-term storage of food, particularly during periods of drought, flooding, and insufficient production. [Governments should also promote [, in accordance with national legislations and capacities,] [the importance of processing for food safety and product reformulation.] [[guidelines to [regulate and] [monitor the level of processing of food.] [food processing]] [[Food fortification could be part of critical nutrition-specific actions [, when necessary, to address micronutrient gaps of public health concern. These should be in line with national fortification strategies or guidelines.]]] *[pending brackets to be discussed]*

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL ON PARA 3.2.4.C: Governments, private sector and research centers should support research, monitoring, development and scaling up the use of innovative processing technologies and practices in accordance with the three dimensions of sustainable development that can retain the nutrient content of food, minimize post-harvest nutrient losses, create, where appropriate, new value added products from food processing by-products, and promote longer-term storage of food, particularly during periods of drought, flooding, and insufficient production. Food fortification could be part of nutrition-specific actions, when necessary, to address micronutrient gaps of public health concern, in line with national fortification strategies or guidelines.]

324.d - Governments should [promote] [adopt] strategies, guidelines, [sustainability-sensitive] [regulatory instruments and] [or] [non-trade distortive] [incentives] [for local production] [for food reformulation] and support appropriate [complementary] [evidence and science-based] measures [such as [interpretive] front-of-pack labels (FOPL), providing] [to provide] accurate, standardized and comprehensible information, including on key nutritional aspects, [such as serving sizes and nutritional content in the context of healthy diets] to help consumers to make informed and healthy choices¹⁶. [Also measures should be adopted to reduce the overall impact on children of marketing of [ultra-processed foods and]

¹⁴ Resolution WHA57.17 https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA57/A57_R17-en.pdf

¹⁵ Resolution WHA66.10. https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA66/A66_R10-en.pdf?ua=1

¹⁶ World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolution 57.17, paragraphs 40.4 and 61, and WHA Resolution 66.10.

foods high in energy, saturated fats [footnote], trans-fats, sugar or salt [, consistent with national legislation, where applicable].] *[pending brackets to be discussed]*

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL ON PARA 3.2.4.d: Governments should foster strategies, guidelines, regulatory instruments for food reformulation and support appropriate complementary evidence and science-based measures such as front-of-pack labels (FOPL), providing accurate, standardized and comprehensible information, including on key nutritional aspects, to help consumers to make informed and healthy choices¹⁷.]

3.2.4.e - [Governments should encourage] Private sector [should][to] contribute [under state control][by [public][national] guidance]][according to national laws and regulations] [in line with multilaterally agreed rules] to public health goals including those set out in the 2030 Agenda aligned with national [legislations, regulations,] [legislative and regulatory] priorities [and laws] and with national food-based dietary guidelines by producing and promoting nutritious foods [and safe food products] that [contribute to a healthy diet and] are produced sustainably [and contribute to a healthy diet], [increasing and preserving nutrient content] and should make efforts to reformulate foods, when necessary, by reducing the content of nutrients of public health concern. [in accordance with paragraph 3.2.4.d] *[pending brackets to be discussed]*

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL ON PARA 3.2.4.e: Private sector should contribute to public health goals including those set out in the 2030 Agenda aligned with national legislations, regulations, priorities and laws and with national food-based dietary guidelines by producing and promoting nutritious and safe food that contribute to a healthy diet and are produced sustainably, increasing and preserving nutrient content and should make efforts to reformulate foods, when necessary, by reducing the content of nutrients of public health concern.]

[NEW PARA 3.2.4.f: Governments[, where appropriate,] should incentivize [national] private sector food actors to [work towards more] [explore] sustainable and safe packaging of products such as nanotechnology, waxing [and], plant-based wrapping [and biodegradable plastics]]. *[pending brackets to be discussed]*

3.2.5.b - Governments should provide, and intergovernmental organizations, private sector and other relevant stakeholders should promote, where applicable, social protection programmes to food producers and workers helping them to be food secure, have decent income and wages and sufficient livelihoods, and access and afford healthy diets and adequate health services. *[informally agreed by FoC]*

¹⁷ World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolution 57.17, paragraphs 40.4 and 61, and WHA Resolution 66.10.

3.2.5.d - Governments, private sector and other relevant stakeholders should promote the health and wellbeing of food system workers, including seasonal and migrant workers, and adopt measures, including early warning systems, to prevent spreading of infectious diseases, including providing protective equipment by ensuring appropriate working conditions and, where appropriate, living conditions including for seasonal and migrant workers. Workers should be trained on how infectious disease spreads and how they can protect themselves and their coworkers and the food and the materials they handle. Governments and private sector, in accordance with relevant national and international laws, should recognize the role that farmer and worker organizations[, including organizations of peasants and trade unions of workers,] play in promoting the health and wellbeing of farm and food system workers. [pending brackets to be discussed]

3.3.1.a - Governments should improve the availability of and access to safe and nutritious food that contributes to healthy diets through sustainable food systems, including through trade that should be in accordance with [national rules, especially in developing countries] a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable, multilateral trading system [under the World Trade Organization] [acknowledging that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable, multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to achieving food security and improving nutrition] [, and ensure that these do not have a negative impact on the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security¹⁸.] [pending brackets to be discussed]

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL ON PARA 3.3.1.a: Governments should improve the availability of and access to safe and nutritious food that contributes to healthy diets through sustainable food systems, including through trade that should be in accordance with a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable, multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, and ensure that it has a positive impact on the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.]

3.7.1.a - Governments and intergovernmental organizations should pay particular attention, to protection issues, and ensure safe and unhindered access to safe , nutritious and encourage, where possible, [sustainably] and locally or regionally produced food and nutritional support to the most vulnerable groups. [and implement community based social and behavioral change activities to address malnutrition in humanitarian settings [and should foster access to productive resources and to markets that are remunerative and beneficial to smallholders. Food and water should never be used as an instrument for political or economic pressure]. [pending brackets to be discussed]

¹⁸ FAO. 2004. Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.

3.7.1.b - Governments, parties involved in conflicts, international humanitarian organizations [and other [relevant] stakeholders] should [facilitate access] [, where appropriate,] [ensure safe and unhindered access] of all members of affected and at-risk populations to food security and nutrition assistance, in both acute and protracted crises, in accordance with internationally recognized humanitarian principles, as anchored in Geneva Convention of 1949 and other UNGA Resolutions after 1949. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

3.7.1.c - Governments, with the support of intergovernmental organizations and international assistance and cooperation where appropriate, should ensure safe and unhindered access to safe and nutritious [and sustainably produced] food and nutritional support for refugees, internally displaced people, host communities, and asylum seekers in their territory, in accordance with governments' obligations under relevant international agreed instruments. Governments should have, where appropriate [and in accordance with national priorities and capacities], emergency preparedness plans in place to ensure food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups as well as emergency nutrition surveillance with appropriate indicators during crises such as epidemics and pandemics, conflicts and disasters including those induced by climate change. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

3.7.2.a - Governments, all parties involved in conflicts, disasters including those induced by climate change, epidemics and pandemics, and food assistance, including intergovernmental organizations, should underline and support that food security and nutrition assessments and analyses include appropriate safeguards for the identification and management of potential conflicts of interests, are undertaken throughout a crisis to inform food assistance and nutrition response as well as any components of the local food system requiring rehabilitation or improvement. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

3.7.2.b - Governments should acknowledge nutrition as an essential need and humanitarian assistance should aim to meet and monitor nutritional requirements of the affected population, particularly the most vulnerable to malnutrition. Any food items provided should be fit for purpose, of appropriate nutritional quality and quantity, be safe and acceptable. Food should conform to the food standards of the host country's government, in accordance with para 39 of the VGFSyN. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

3.7.2.c - Governments and intergovernmental organizations should support social protection mechanisms[,] [and] [acute malnutrition] [wasting] management [, and food fortification] programmes [that encourage, where possible, the purchase of] [purchasing] [locally produced] [safe and appropriate] food [including from local producers] and promote and support adequate coverage during times of crisis. [Fortification [has a role to play in fragile contexts or humanitarian crises] [should be used only in limited times and places] and [in very acute circumstances such as famines][.] [Humanitarian assistance] should [be evidence-based and] not [harm or] disrupt local market[s] and accessibility of nutritious food in the longer term.] [Public programmes should not generically promote fortification. Public fortification programmes must be always be based on public health needs. Any reference to

fortification should clarify the contexts in which fortified foods should be used.] [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

[**CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR 3.7.2.c:** Governments and intergovernmental organizations should support social protection mechanisms, programmes to manage wasting, and where necessary food fortification programmes, that include, where possible, locally produced, safe and appropriate food, and that achieve adequate coverage during times of crisis. Fortification can play a complementary role in fragile contexts or humanitarian crisis and should be evidence-based, context-specific and in support of local markets and accessibility of nutritious food in the longer term]

3.7.2.d - Governments should implement policies on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) in emergencies including the protection of optimal breastfeeding practices and, together with intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, and should support the promotion, coordination and implementation of such policies on IYCF practices, and promoted] during humanitarian crises. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

3.7.2.e - Governments and intergovernmental organizations should support [that when implementing] cash and voucher assistance, [in which] the minimum expenditure basket and transfer value [is] [promoting] [promotes] [sustainably produced,] nutritious and safe food that is locally [, regionally and internationally] available and sufficient to provide a healthy diet [through sustainable food systems] for all stages of the lifecycle [consulting existing guidance from WFP]. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

3.7.3.a - Governments in partnership with intergovernmental and other relevant organizations should, where appropriate, undertake food system analysis, develop and use early warning systems, climate information services, and food and agriculture information systems, including food price monitoring systems, that detect and monitor threats to food production, availability and access as well as food safety hazards and tampering. These early warning systems should be integrated into broader food analysis systems including the monitoring of the availability and affordability of nutritious foods that contribute to healthy diets through sustainable food systems at the local level. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

3.7.3.b - Governments and intergovernmental organizations should, as appropriate, invest in disaster risk reduction measures that benefit those most at risk/need. In particular, productive assets should be protected from severe weather and climate impacts and other disasters in a way that strengthens the resilience of affected populations and their ability to cope with shocks due to conflicts and disasters including those induced by climate change as well as economic shocks. [Measures include social safety nets, investment in protecting [fragile] [affected] livelihoods, emergency fiscal and food reserves, reduction of transaction costs, and identification of platform for integrated interventions.] Governments should aim to

restore local food production and market accessibility as rapidly as possible. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

3.7.3.c - Intergovernmental organizations and development partners should, with the consent of governments, where appropriate, involve local non-governmental organizations, private sector and other relevant stakeholders, including appropriate safeguards for the identification and management of potential conflicts of interests, in the implementation of humanitarian food assistance and livelihood programmes to support economic recovery and development, strengthen sustainable local food systems and foster the ability of smallholders and/or family farmers to access resources to bolster production and markets. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

59. All CFS Members and stakeholders are encouraged to support and promote at all levels within their constituencies, and in collaboration with other relevant initiatives and platforms, the dissemination, use and application of the VGFSyN to support the development and implementation of coordinated and multisectoral national policies, laws, programmes and investment plans to achieve sustainable food systems that deliver healthy diets and improve nutrition. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

60. MOVED UP: NEW PARA 30bis

61. Governments are invited to use the VGFSyN as a tool to undertake new initiatives [on the process towards achieving sustainable food systems, recalling that transformation of food systems should be encouraged in a coherent manner, as appropriate and in accordance with and dependent on national contexts and capacities,] [ALT: to achieve healthy diets through sustainable food systems] to make them more sustainable and capable of [delivering] [supporting equitable access to] healthy diets. These [could] include [adopting national [human rights-based] [nutrition] strategies to formulate policies,] identifying policy opportunities, fostering a transparent [, participatory] and open dialogue, promoting coordination mechanisms, [enhancing policy coherence, supportive innovative technologies,] and establishing or strengthening existing, multistakeholder platforms, partnerships, processes and frameworks¹⁹ [with robust safeguards against conflicts of interest,], promoting and supporting the involvement and engagement of all relevant stakeholders, including representatives of most vulnerable groups. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

62. Parliamentarians and their sub-national, national, and regional alliances play a key role in promoting the adoption of policies, establishing appropriate legislative and regulatory frameworks, raising awareness and promoting dialogue among relevant stakeholders, and

¹⁹ [These frameworks include the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement and Nutrition for Growth (N4G).]

allocating resources for the implementation of policies and programmes [dealing with food systems and nutrition] [aimed at achieving sustainable food systems that enable healthy diets] [to enable sustainable food systems [and positive nutrition outcomes]] [to achieve healthy diets through sustainable food systems]. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

63. Governments are strongly encouraged to mobilize adequate financial, technical and human resources, and encourage international cooperation, to increase the human and institutional capacity of countries to implement the VGFSyN and to identify priorities toward their operationalization and monitoring at the international, regional, national and local levels. Technical agencies of the UN, bilateral cooperation agencies and other development partners can assist in this regard. Meaningful participation of the most affected by hunger and malnutrition as well as the development of user-friendly and technical guides, are important to contextualizing approaches and adapting them to local contexts. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

64. The process of accelerat[e][ing] the shift towards sustainable food systems²⁰ [should] [may] include mechanisms to [provide] [financially] support [, by all stakeholders and including South-South and Triangular Cooperation,] [and facilitate] knowledge and technology transfer [on mutually agreed terms] schemes to developing countries[,] [,] [in line with principle 7 of the Rio Declaration]. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

[**CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR PARA 64:** To accelerate and scale up action, as appropriate, to strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacity of food systems the mobilization of financial resources as well as capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, are essential. Public finance, both domestic as international, will play a vital role in providing essential services and public goods and in catalyzing other resources of finance for the implementation of the VGFSyN²¹, reaffirming paragraph 12 of the 2030 Agenda: “ reaffirm all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as in principle 7 thereof” ²².]

65. [Developed countries [should] [may] [are encouraged to] mobilize resources to help developing countries to [address and] [cope with] [address] their responsibilities, [mainly] [which could be channeled through] [by] multilateral financial mechanisms.] [ALT: All countries, with additional support by multilateral mechanisms, where appropriate, are invited to enhanced mobilization of resources, private and public, to cope with their responsibilities.] [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

²⁰ [UNGA Resolution A/RES/74/242](#). Paragraph 5

²¹ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 41.

²² 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 12.

[CHAIR'S PROPOSAL FOR PARA 65: The mobilization of additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources should be strengthened, including through North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation²³. International organizations, especially international financial institutions, should strengthen their support, in line with their mandates, to developing countries in implementing the VGFSyN.]

66. Donors, financing institutions, intergovernmental organizations and other funding entities are encouraged to apply the VGFSyN when formulating their policies for loans, grants and programmes to support [both rights holders' and duty bearers' endeavors] [beneficiaries and implementing agencies efforts] [relevant stakeholders' endeavors]. The VGFSyN should contribute to the design of responsible investments that aim to increase the [sustainable] production, affordability [of food][, and access to diverse, nutritious and sustainably produced food,] as well as to promote the integration of [environmental,] nutrition and health dimensions into agriculture and food sector investment plans[, as well as to promote the integration of sustainable agriculture and food system dimensions into nutrition and health investment plans]. [*pending brackets to be discussed*]

67. Development partners, intergovernmental organizations, including the Rome-based Agencies, and regional organizations, private sector, civil society and other relevant stakeholders are encouraged to support, within their existing resources and mandates, efforts by governments to implement the VGFSyN. Such support could include research and technical cooperation, financial and humanitarian assistance, the provision of evidence-based policy advice, institutional capacity development, development of monitoring frameworks, knowledge sharing and exchange of experiences, and assistance in developing national and regional policies. Actions could be taken to improve partners' capacity to design, manage and participate in multistakeholder partnerships, with robust safeguards for the identification and management of potential conflicts of interest, to ensure transparency and accountability and promote good governance for effective results. Moreover, UN interagency coordination mechanisms dealing with various aspects of food systems and nutrition are encouraged to harmonize their work and to leverage and support the uptake of the VGFSyN at country level upon the request of member states. [*informally agreed by FoC*]

68. Governments, national and international research organizations, intergovernmental organizations, universities and other academic institutions, are encouraged to support the availability and accessibility of knowledge, including indigenous, traditional and local knowledge, with the voluntary consent of indigenous peoples, innovation, including through digitalization, science and evidence on all dimensions of food systems to enable the development of monitoring frameworks, examination of the evidence, prioritization of issues

²³ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraphs 17.3 and 17.6.

to be considered, evaluation of impacts, and addressing potential synergies and trade-offs. *[informally agreed by FoC]*

69. The dissemination and uptake of the VGFSyN can be facilitated through the identification of “champions” and “change agents”, especially among private enterprises, civil society organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities, with safeguards for the identification and management of potential conflicts of interests, that could raise awareness and organize advocacy campaigns across sectors and different governmental levels while respecting cultural diversity. *[informally agreed by FoC]*

70. Governments, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, are encouraged to define national policy priorities and related indicators, mobilize regional and local structures to report on these indicators, and establish or strengthen, where appropriate, existing national monitoring and reporting systems in order to assess the efficacy and effectiveness of policies and regulations, and implement appropriate remedial actions in case of negative impacts or gaps. Governments are encouraged to use science and evidence based monitoring and evaluation approaches focused on learning what works and adaptation to achieve maximum results. *[informally agreed by FoC]*

71. By applying the VGFSyN, governments can contribute to the achievement of the six Global Nutrition Targets (2025) endorsed by the WHA in 2012²⁴ and its diet related NCD targets²⁵. The VGFSyN can support countries in defining priority actions and formulating specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound commitments²⁶ to achieve nutrition, health and economic, social and environmental objectives to accelerate and align efforts linked to the Nutrition Decade and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This can be done through advocating for policies and legislation, allowing the exchange of best practices and experiences, highlighting successes and lessons learned, and providing mutual support to accelerate implementation. Governments should promote access to transparent and effective mediation, grievance, and dispute resolution mechanisms, particularly for the most vulnerable and marginalized. *[informally agreed by FoC]*

72. CFS is strongly encouraged to include the VGFSyN in its ongoing work and its existing funding resources on monitoring, as defined in the [CFS Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition \(GSF\)](#).] *[informally agreed by FoC]*

²⁴ <https://www.who.int/nutrition/global-target-2025/en/>

²⁵ <https://www.who.int/beat-ncds/take-action/targets/en/>

²⁶ In the context of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition and ICN2 follow-up process, country commitments for action should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound. <https://www.who.int/nutrition/decade-of-action/smart-commitments/en/>