

Delivered in Arabic - checked against English interpretation

**Statement delivered by
His Excellency Abdulaziz Ahmed Almalki Ambassador and
Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar
on the occasion of the
41st Session of the FAO Conference, Rome, Italy (22-29 June 2019)
24 June 2019**

In the name of god the merciful the compassionate,
Excellencies honorable ministers
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like first and foremost to congratulate and very warmly so, the new Director General, Mr. Qu Dongyu and wish him full success in his new mission. I would also like to thank and express my high esteem for the candidates from the republic of France and the republic of Georgia for their very valuable ideas and the efforts they made in the run up to this election. I cannot but extend my thanks to, Mr. Graziano da Silva the Director General for the praise worthy efforts he made at the service of this Organization and its noble humanitarian goals.

The challenges that agriculture is facing in global food security and the sustainable management of natural resources are multi-dimensional challenges. Agriculture is inextricably linked to nature and is vulnerable to the transboundary changes it is witnessing today. And despite the abundance of human, natural and economic resources in many regions of the world, there are other regions that suffer from different food crises, including the Near East and North Africa region, as well as the other countries in the Arab World.

The State of Qatar has bolstered its position in the international scene through sustainable development and through innovative ideas and solutions to protect the environment and its sustainability. We are also investing in innovation and modern practices across sectors. We commend the role of FAO in promoting and supporting sustainable development, and elaborating a strategy for world food security.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We believe that achieving food security in the state of Qatar will contribute to regional and international food security. For this reason, Qatar has established expert companies in agriculture, livestock and fisheries and has launched agriculture investment projects for private sector investors as well as a number of strategic projects for greenhouse vegetable production, and green fodder production reusing treated water in order to attain self-sufficiency, and ensure safe food supplies. We are also using renewable energy as best practices to develop the agriculture sector, ensure the optimal use of the scarce natural resources available in our country, protect the environment, ensure food market stability, develop investments in agriculture and provide safeguards for the private sector to invest in agriculture.

We emphasize the need to face all severe threats and challenges due to climate change given their impact on water scarcity. This has a negative impact on crops, livestock, agriculture and aquaculture in many countries and leads to desertification, droughts and farmland degradation which makes many people vulnerable to malnutrition.

Ladies and gentleman

Qatar's strategy aims at achieving food security, it ranked first among Arab countries and Twenty-second worldwide according to the Global Food Security Indicator (GFSI). Qatar, through its national food security strategy managed to face all threats, challenges and negative impacts by ensuring timely and quick provision of all necessary food products, drugs and primary resources. We would like to

pay tribute to this Organization for its leading role, its efforts and fruitful cooperation with a great number of Member countries in order to achieve sustainable development and one of the main goals of this third millennium i.e. eliminate poverty, hunger and malnutrition, and ensure global food security. This is the common goal we all strive to achieve. Best wishes of success to this Conference. May the peace of god be with you. Thank you very much.