

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
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ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment
FAO/UNICEF/ECHO/ACF Side Event: Nutrition as an Input and Outcome of Resilience – 23
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Opening remarks by Sharon Brennen-Haylock, Director of FAO Liaison Office, as Moderator

As Delivered

Good morning,

I am Sharon Brennen-Haylock, Director of the FAO Liaison Office here in NY.

On behalf of the co-sponsors, Action Against Hunger, UNICEF, ECHO and FAO, I welcome you all at this very early hour to this side event on Nutrition as an input and outcome of resilience

There is growing consensus that building resilience is necessary for food and nutrition security. This was explored recently during the recent IFPRI 2020 Conference “[Building Resilience for Food and Nutrition Security](#)” that took place May 28th in Addis Ababa.

Today, we thought it would be a good opportunity to use the ECOSOC HAS to explore again this topic.

Many of you present probably know a lot more about this topic than I do, but before turning to our distinguished panelists, let me offer a few thoughts, much of which is reflected in the outcome of the recent Addis Conference.

Resilience should not be another word that becomes jargon; we should see it as something that is practical, relevant and necessary.

It is about empowerment and capability at the global level, national level, community level, and most importantly—the individual level—to predict, prevent, cope with, recover, and find sustainable situations after times of crises.

It is about bridging the gap between short-term relief and long-term development goals.

It should become for us a way of thinking, living and breathing to ensure a healthy, sustainable global food system that can provide nutritious food for all and at all times, with a view to preserving the planet.

We should view it is useful for a range of issues related to sustainable development - smallholder production, processing, agriculture-related diseases, food safety, access to food and others

Although challenging, we should look at ways to measure resilience, in order to facilitate empowerment and capacity at all levels.

So with this few words, I now turn to our panel and look forward to being educated myself about this topic.

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