

UN Food Systems Summit+2 Stocktaking Moment

SESSION REPORT

All session recordings will be available after the conclusion of the session. Please send the report of your session to Ms. Yota Nicolarea (Panayota.Nicolarea@fao.org) and Mr. Thembani Malapela (Thembani.Malapela@fao.org) by Tuesday 1st August COB

Type (click one): **HLS/PLENARY** – **LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE** – **SPECIAL EVENT**

Reversing the food and hunger crisis: building more resilient food systems

July 25th, 14:30 – 17:30

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List of speakers, in all segments, and key messages

NAME AND TITLE OF SPEAKER	SEGMENT (opening, panel, closing, etc.)	KEY MESSAGES OR/AND RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS
1. Cindy McCain, Executive Director of WFP	Opening	Ms. McCain opened the event by making the case for building more resilient food systems as the cornerstone of the SDGs, especially as compounding shocks and stressors from climate, fragility and macroeconomic instability threaten to increase food insecurity and malnutrition across the globe.
2. President Mohamoud of Somalia	Opening	His Excellency recalled the many challenges facing Somalia and outlined his priorities for more resilient food systems. These include connecting farmers to markets, reducing food loss and waste, and adapting financing mechanisms to meet the scale of the challenge. President Mohamoud described resilient food systems as the bridge between humanitarian and development actions for long-term food security.

3. Dr. Mayaki, AU Special Envoy for Food Systems	Opening	Dr. Mayaki outlined how resilient food systems start at the national level, with governments ensuring enough food for its people. He then described the myriad of challenges facing governments today. He highlighted important actions such as improving access to finance (especially climate finance), improving risk management tools, investing in the African Continental Free Trade Agreement and prioritizing young people.
4. Francesco Lollobrigida Minister of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry, Italy	Panel 1	Minister Lollobrigida spoke of Italy’s experience putting sustainability, resilience, and food security at the center of their national plans. He highlighted issues of food waste, risk management, technological innovation, local foods, and education/access to resources for young people.
5. Jeanine M. Cooper Minister of Agriculture, Liberia	Panel 1	Minister Cooper spoke of work to catalyze agro-industries including in palm oil, rice, and cassava. She outlined Liberia’s goals to move from importing 75% of its rice to producing 75% of national consumption – “getting rice right.”
6. Olawale Rotimi, Founder of JR Farms	Panel 1	Mr. Rotimi noted that international food systems meetings often do not include enough private sector voices. He opined that the role of the public sector is not to invest in businesses or value chains, but to create the space and incentives for the private sector to do so.
7. Qingfeng Zhang, Asian Development Bank	Panel 1	Mr. Zhang highlighted Asia’s food security challenges and described the ADB’s 14 billion USD commitment to food security, with a special focus on the nature-food-climate nexus.
8. Dr. Shenggen Fan, CGIAR Executive Board	Panel 1	Dr. Fan highlighted the role of research institutions to support national initiatives and announced an upcoming CGIAR conference in Montpellier to develop a roadmap for food systems transformation. He outlined how the estimated \$33bn/year for food systems transformation must come from both development partners and national budgets.
9. Jochen Flasbarth, State Secretary Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany	Panel 1	Secretary Flasbarth spoke of Germany’s vision of resilient food systems which elevates environmental issues such as soil and societal issues such as land titles for women and youth. He gave examples of projects with smallholders in the DRC and school meals programmes in PDR Laos and Sierra Leone.

10. Anne Beathe Tvinnereim, Minister of International Development, Norway	Panel 2	Minister Tvinnereim highlighted how food sovereignty is a triple win for food security, local economic development, and climate-friendly solutions. She reiterated the importance of focusing on small producers as businessmen and women looking to improve productivity, connect with markets and create jobs.
11. Jose Mpanda Kbangu, Minister of Agriculture, DRC	Panel 2	Minister Kabangu spoke of the need to invest in small producers but to avoid siloed approaches and recognize that effectively investing in smallholders means understanding their specific challenges and opportunities.
12. Estherine Fotabong, AUDA-NEPAD	Panel 2	Ms. Fotabong spoke of the key role of National Agricultural Investment Plans and the need to strengthen institutional innovations for food and climate, especially in the coordination between ministries. She highlighted that we will not make progress without real investments into local production, land restoration, connecting farmers to markets, and investing in youth.
13. Lilian Dos Santos Rahal, State Secretary for Food and Nutrition Security, Brazil	Panel 2	Secretary Rahal spoke of Brazil's public food procurement through the Food Purchase Programme, which pays Brazilian small farmers a premium for sustainable and organic foods. Brazil supports other countries to replicate these types of institutional procurement programmes through South-South Cooperation initiatives.
14. Jhenifer Mojica, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Colombia	Panel 2	Minister Mojica spoke of Colombia's challenges with inequality and its responsibility to protect the Amazon and Colombia's biodiversity. She described sustainable agriculture as one of the best opportunities to promote both rural development and protect natural resources. She urged the global community to step up its commitments to biodiversity, land restoration and protection.
15. Yeshey Penjor, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, Bhutan	Panel 2	Minister Penjor spoke of the challenges faced by the Kingdom of Bhutan including topography, climate change and current food price challenges. He highlighted how networking, cooperation, and partnerships are necessary to strengthen value chains and marketing infrastructure.

Interventions from the floor

SPEAKER	QUESTION OR KEY POINT OF INTERVENTION
<p>Government Representatives</p> <p>Bolivia Brazil Burkina Faso Cameroon Guinea Haiti Kenya Madagascar Malta Nepal Nigeria Nauru Philippine Qatar Republic of Congo Romania Russian Federation Slovenia Syria Tunisia Uzbekistan Yemen</p>	<p>Government representatives described their efforts to build more resilient food systems by investing in food production and markets, streamlining risk management and anticipatory actions, reducing the harmful effects of trade on rural communities, protecting biodiversity and natural resources, and focusing on healthy, traditional, climate-smart foods. Several speakers focused on the need to bring in Indigenous communities, women, and youth at all elements of the food system, including governance. Speakers see food systems transformation as key for not only food security, but economic development and climate adaptation.</p>
<p>Non-State Actors</p>	<p>Interventions from Non-State Actors including the IFRC, Order of Malta, the World Farmers Markets Alliance and GAFSP focused on the increasing humanitarian needs brought on by the current food crises; urged a focus on systems levels improvements including climate-smart food production in conflict affected areas; highlighted the need to ensure that small food producers and producer organizations are at the table; the importance of anticipatory actions with forecast and risk analysis; solutions for efficient and effective management of agrifood value chains and farmers markets.</p>

Overall summary, conclusions and recommended actions (max 250 words)

Plenary 2 focused on moving from ambition to action in building more resilient food systems. It highlighted “five asks” that represent priority areas for government, development partners, non-state actors, the private sector and citizens in building more resilient food systems. These five areas include (1) increasing local production for local consumption; (2) leveraging regenerative agricultural practices and soil restoration; (3) reducing post-harvest losses; (4) leveraging institutional procurement to connect farmers to markets and (5) putting youth and women at the center. This session built upon the School Meals High Level Session and made the connection of home-grown school meals programmes, with strong institutional procurement mechanisms, connecting local production and markets, as a key to build more resilient food systems.

These areas are impactful, actionable and push forward the resilient food systems agenda. They also have the potential to support a new paradigm in development financing and reshape relationships between the global north and global south.

In addition to practical actions, a key theme of many interventions centered on finance and investment, and --recognizing the positive impact of resilient food systems on climate adaptation—connecting climate financing to support resilient food systems. Speakers described the need to move from existing financial structures to ones that meet today’s needs; the imperative for governments to increase domestic investments in actions and research for resilient food systems; the ask for development partners to invest in national food system priorities; and to ensure that access to finance is also addressed at the local level.

Many speakers highlighted the challenges to global food security posed by the disruption of the Black Sea Grain Initiative and called for all parties to return to the negotiating table.