

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

Indigenous Peoples' Food systems for the future of food, biodiversity and climate action

July 26th, 2023, 14:30-16:00h

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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. Vital Bambanze, Batwa people, Member of the UNPFII	Opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members States and actors are encouraged to join the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems so that they work hand in hand, putting Indigenous Peoples at the centre. - The UN Food Systems Coordination Hub should include Indigenous Peoples in all the activities they organize and undertake from the beginning.

2.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During the 22nd session of UN Forum on Indigenous Issues last April 2023, the Secretary-General of the UN, H.E. Antonio Guterres, acknowledged the need to engage Indigenous Peoples’ in different UN platforms and processes. He also acknowledged the role of Indigenous Peoples to fight hunger and their valuable contribution to food security.
3. Chef Jose Andrés promotional	Opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indigenous Peoples’ food systems provide rich, diverse and nutritious food not only for Indigenous communities but for the world. Indigenous Peoples for thousands of years have been nourishing the planet and embracing sustainable practices, they care for the biodiversity and have a strong connection and respect to land. - Indigenous Peoples’ food systems are sustainable, they use native seeds adapted to broad range of extreme weather conditions, use fewer resources, have one of the lowest carbon foot print. - Indigenous Peoples should have a seat at the table, we must empower them and their food systems because many of the food systems that are dominant instead of being part of the solution, have become part of the problem. We must work and learn from Indigenous Peoples.
4. H.E. Jhenifer Mojica, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Colombia	Opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Republic of Colombia indicated that for a long-lasting peace and face the current challenges, it is important to recognise and include Indigenous Peoples in a meaningful way in different processes that can help to ensure the right to food and the sustainability of the planet for Colombians and the world. - The Colombian government recognised the important of Indigenous Peoples’ land tenure through the so called “<i>resguardos</i>” and they are protected by the constitution. A third of Colombia’s territory, mainly in the Amazonas biome, is protected by Indigenous Peoples with their customary practices and ways of living. - The Colombian government officially joined the Coalition during this special session. It is time to respect and learn from Indigenous Peoples, their food and knowledge systems. It is also important to scale up many of their game-changing practices that can help entire humanity to tackle the environmental crisis and food insecurity.

<p>5. H.E. Jonas Gahr Støre, Prime Minister of Norway</p>	<p>Opening remarks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Norway is committed to transforming current food systems into more sustainable and inclusive and in doing so, it is important to work with Indigenous Peoples as they are the guardians of the world’s remaining biodiversity and which is crucial for the sustainability of the planet. - Norway, as a founder member of the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples’ Food Systems, fully supports the coalition to achieve the caring of biodiversity, zero hunger, inclusivity and a healthy planet and it invites other governments. - Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge has been long time tested and adapted to a broad range of environments and this makes them the champions of adaptation, e.g., the reindeer husbandry practices in Norway use local resources to adapt to the changing seasons, getting diverse and nutritious diets not only for Indigenous Peoples but the country. The Saami people and the Norway government cooperate and dialogue to find solutions for food security that are suitable for everyone. - Norway recognises the vital role of Indigenous youth as carriers and keepers of Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge, Indigenous Youth should be heard. The Norwegian government and the coalition, next October 2023, through the Boaššu FoodLab, will support the 2nd UN Global Youth Indigenous Forum and the campaign my “Food vision is” that recognises the role of youth for biodiversity protection, climate change mitigation and food systems transformation.
<p>6. H.E. Sonia Guajajara, Minister of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil</p>	<p>Opening remarks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The government of Brazil is committed to fighting hunger and would like to create a Global Alliance to protect biodiversity, end hunger and inequality. - Indigenous Peoples and their relationship with nature, their traditional knowledge and cultural values are essential for the sustainability of the world. - The Coalition on Indigenous Peoples’ Food Systems plays a fundamental role to help achieving food security and fight climate change while working closely with Indigenous Peoples and Brazil can be an ally for this process.

<p>7. Bah- Phrang Roy, Khasi people, Indigenous Partnership for Agroecology and Food Sovereignty</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indigenous Peoples have a sacred relationship with nature. Their values of caring and sharing and community action are core elements of their food systems, and they have the potential to transform unsustainable food systems at large. - Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems are game-changers for more human, nature-positive and value driven food systems. - The coalition members make a request to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the UNFSS +2 to work hand in hand with Indigenous Peoples, to not only acknowledge Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and food systems but to recognize their game changing nature and respect it.
<p>8. Tania Eulalia Martinez-Cruz, Èyuujk people, Secretariat Coalition on Indigenous Peoples, FAO</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Coalition on Indigenous Peoples is important and it is the only coalition out of the original 30 and the remaining 20 coalitions that has Indigenous Peoples at the centre. - Transforming unsustainable food systems towards sustainability and resilience can only happen with Indigenous Peoples. - Dedicated policies to protect, respect and scale up Indigenous Peoples food and knowledge systems is a must, so they can continue protecting biodiversity and helping to the sustainability and resilience of the planet. - The coalition is a collective space of work and welcomes other actors, member states and coalitions. Recently, they have started a dialogue with the School Meals Coalition and they are committed to work with other coalitions.
<p>9. Rochelle Diver, Anishinaabe/ Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, International Indian Treaty Council.</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respecting Indigenous Peoples' rights and valuing Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge is the rightful path forward towards a true sustainable global food system for all. Pesticides, agrochemicals and GMOs are not the answer. Our future generations deserve to have a toxic-free future.
<p>10. H.E. Karla Mena Soto, Director of the office of extension on agriculture and livestock, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Costa Rica</p>	<p>Panel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Costa Rica is a government committed to climate action and the conservation of biodiversity because despite its small territory, they hold 6% of the world's biodiversity. - Indigenous Peoples have shown to be by excellence the custodians of the biodiversity despite they only represent about 6% of the world's population. Costa Rica recognises that Indigenous Peoples are needed for a healthy planet and that we must learn from them.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Costa Rica has a dedicated program of incentives to support sustainable practices and 60% of the funds are allocated to the Indigenous Peoples in the Caribbean so they can strengthen their practices. - Costa Rica has started conversations with the coalition, which they joined last month, to work on biocentric restoration initiatives that can help both to achieve the goals of the UNFSS and support the government in their efforts to conserve biodiversity and climate action.
11. Phoolman Chaudhary, Tharu people, President, Asian Indigenous International Network and former member of the UNPFII	Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the face of climate change and biodiversity loss, the resilience of Indigenous Peoples' food systems can guide the world towards a better future for all. However, this requires the meaningful participation and empowerment of Indigenous Peoples, particularly women and youth, who play crucial roles in preserving our food heritage and biodiversity. - For sustainable food systems transformation, we advocate for enhanced coordination among governments, Indigenous Peoples and international organizations. It is fundamental to bolster thematic and political engagements within G7, G20 processes, and other relevant forums.
12. Rajan Humagain, Himalayan Peace Foundation, Coalition on Indigenous Peoples food systems	Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working with Indigenous Peoples to implement biocentric restoration practices on a large scale is important for food security, biodiversity, the long-term health of the planet and the well-being of all its inhabitants. - The urgent challenges of climate change, loss of biodiversity, and environmental degradation must be addressed now. Thus, governments and actors are invited to join the coalition and join efforts. - Indigenous Peoples have a wealth of knowledge and experience in these areas, and we must draw from their expertise to develop effective solutions. An example of what can be done and achieved is the White Wiphala paper drafted by the Global Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems and which served to advocate for the creation of this coalition.
13. Jessica Vega, Mixteca people, Global Indigenous Youth Caucus Advisor	Panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indigenous Youth are agents of change and the future of Indigenous Peoples and the planet. They are the carriers of Indigenous Peoples' knowledge that is essential not only for their survival, for sustainable food systems and the planet.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indigenous Youth expressed their commitment with the coalition and to strengthen the collaborative work with key actors to ensure the sustainable transformation of healthy, nutritious and resilient food systems. - During the upcoming Global UN Indigenous Youth Forum in FAO Rome, Indigenous Youth will organize a joint event with the coalition to present proposals and work that support them at different levels. Thus, they would like to extend the invitation to other countries to join the collective effort of Indigenous Youth and the coalition.
<p>14. H.E. Miguel Garcia-Winder, Mexican ambassador to the UN agencies based in Rome</p>	<p>Closing remarks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Italian Government was crucial for the Indigenous Peoples’ Special Session to take place as part of the UNFSS+2 and the Mexican ambassador would like to acknowledge that. As the Italian government, the support of other key actors has been key for this Special Session to take place and the process, resembles the different challenges that Indigenous Peoples faced to engage in the UNFSS21. - Mexico would like to acknowledge the leading role of Canada for many years on Indigenous Peoples related issues at Rome level. - Indigenous Peoples’ food and knowledge systems have many of the answers to the current crisis that we face, and this coalition has an important contribution to make to the world. - Moving forward and making the coalition succeed, requires some specific commitments and actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Leaving differences aside and finding points that can make everyone work together. For example, when pushing some items concerning Indigenous Peoples and sustainable food systems in the agenda on the Committee of Food Security, it is important to get collective support so the topic can move forward. o More political support is needed. The fact that Lesotho, Colombia, Mexico, Spain and other countries that came to support the Special Session on the coalition, is an example of the political support needed.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Financial support is essential to move forward. In the future specific activities and projects will be implemented at country level but meanwhile, financial support is needed to keep this coalition advancing. ○ Engaging with partners and people that is capable to advocate for the coalition with society in general and other actors that can make a difference. <p>This coalition is not only a coalition for Indigenous Peoples, it is a coalition for humankind, and not only for the present but for the future of the children, youth and next generations, for a healthy planet.</p>
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Interventions from the floor

SPEAKER	QUESTION OR KEY POINT OF INTERVENTION
<p>1. H.E. Beduram Bhusal, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Nepal.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The government of Nepal supports and congratulates the work of the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems and seeks to engage better and collaborate with the coalition. - Nepal recognises that Indigenous Peoples play key roles for the health of ecosystems and that the world must learn from their food and knowledge systems. - Nepal is committed to support Indigenous Peoples, and this is why they have been included them as a high priority in their national budget. - Nepal has also set as a priority School Meals Programs and supporting local food systems, such Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems, can help achieving the country's goals on biodiversity and climate action.
<p>2. H.E. Moisés Morera, Spain Alternate Permanent Representative to FAO.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The government of Spain expresses its support to the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems and congratulates the different member countries that are part of it. - The topic of Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems is of great importance for the Spanish Cooperation and it is part of its policy to support Indigenous Peoples' rights and development. This policy is part of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation. - Spain has been supporting the coalition since its creation in several ways, from the institutional perspective joining different meetings and forums and this Special Session. Spain shares with other actors and in other events the work it does with Indigenous Peoples, for example, in the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. - Another way in which Spain has supported the coalition is through a small financial contribution.

3. H.E. Thesele John
'Maseribane Ambassador and
Permanent Representative of
the Kingdom of Lesotho to
FAO

- The government of Lesotho suggested that one way to support Indigenous Peoples in Africa is through food systems value chains to ensure food security by utilizing, making available and accessible Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems.
- Food self-sufficiency is a primary component to achieve food security. Co-creating knowledge with Indigenous Peoples is one way to strengthen and reinforce Indigenous Peoples' food systems. In this role, importance should be given to the role of intergenerational knowledge transmission, youth and gender.
- The approach for achieving food security and transformation, should be holistic and integrated and consider the ecosystem, e.g., nature, culture, technology and economic systems.
- The food systems transformation should also be about systemic change and two ways of doing so is by 1) Setting a different education system, incorporating Indigenous knowledge as the core at all levels and 2) Socioeconomic models transformation.
- Collaboration with institutions and the inclusion of the private sector is important, so commercialization schemes of Indigenous Peoples' food systems can be created to support local economic development and so everyone harvests the benefits of these potential initiatives.

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

1. The Indigenous Peoples Coalition is not a coalition for Indigenous Peoples only, it is a coalition for humanity, for the future of our children and Mother Earth,
2. Transforming unsustainable food systems towards sustainability and resilience, achieving the UNFSS and SDGs goals, and tackling the multiple crisis linked to food insecurity, biodiversity loss, and climate crisis can only happen with Indigenous Peoples at the centre of the discussions.
3. The coalition seeks to increase respect, recognize, and strengthen Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems. It also aims to support drafting dedicated policies at local, national, and global level to protect, respect and scale up Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems, and associated practices. These policies are essential to support food security, biodiversity, resilience, and the sustainability of the planet.
4. The coalition through the Global Hub on Indigenous Peoples has made a request to the Scientific Advisory Committee of the UNFSS +2 to work alongside with Indigenous Peoples, acknowledging and respecting Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems and recognizing the game-changing nature of their Indigenous Peoples' food systems.
5. Costa Rica recently joined the coalition, and Colombia during this Special Session joined at Ministerial level. Nepal, Lesotho and other countries are expressing their interest in joining this coalition.
6. Costa Rica is discussing Indigenous Biocentric Restoration initiatives with the coalition to have them link with the country's priorities on biodiversity conservation and climate action.
7. Indigenous Youth committed to work with the coalition during the upcoming UN Global Indigenous Youth Forum in October 2023. They will present proposals to support Indigenous Youth at different levels in relation to their food systems.
8. Moving forward and making the coalition succeed, requires:
 - a. Building on the collective work to advance together.
 - b. Members States and other actors are encouraged to join the coalition to work with Indigenous Peoples at the centre and increase political and financial support to the coalition.
 - c. The coalition will support since the beginning, meaningful and timing engagement of Indigenous Peoples in key processes such as the World Committee on Food Security, the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub, and discussions on food systems transformation and climate action.
 - d. Financial support is essential to move forward the work of the coalition and it later will translate into specific policy recommendations at country level.
 - e. The coalition will engage with other coalitions and partners to advocate for Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems and ensure that other coalitions work is supportive of Indigenous Peoples.