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UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment

**Address by H.E. Luca BECCARI, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
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Mr. Secretary General of the UN,
Director General of FAO,
Distinguished Colleagues,

First of all I would like to congratulate FAO, the Italian Government for taking the lead in organizing -under the auspices of the UN - this important event in collaboration with the Rome based Agencies.

This high-level event builds on the 2021 Food Systems Summit to review progress, from commitments to action in order to close the existing gap for food systems transformation.

Let me congratulate you Mr Director General on your re-election last week and wish you success in guiding FAO through such an important and challenging moment for agriculture and its impact on food security worldwide.

I would like to recognize the important role FAO plays in our collective effort towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its potential to contribute to driving the transformation towards sustainable food systems and policy responses.

Food security and systems transformation are now high on the international agenda; they are at the center of global efforts to achieve the SDGs through engagement and coordinated advocacy and communication campaign.

Although our Countries are facing enormous challenges, among others the increase of inequalities, financial constraints, the impact



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of conflicts, we need to enhance commitment by bringing together, by mobilizing public and private investments.

We need to better coordinate public policy decisions and the private sector interest: it is a mosaic where all the pieces must fit - for the purpose of leaving no one behind and prioritizing game - changing solutions.

Food systems transformation can be a tool for progress on sustainable development where human being must be at the center of our political and social engagement, for human dignity and rights.

We have no option but to redouble our efforts to transform agrifood systems and leverage them towards reaching among others SDG 2 target.

Agriculture is at the core of this process. We need to create better opportunities for rural youth by making activities in agriculture and agriculture value chains more attractive, by assuring gender equality and empowerment of women and by promoting bottom-up technology-driven innovations.

Increased urbanization and new complex trends are transforming the relationship between rural-urban and the agrifood systems, therefore, in order to effectively promote food security and nutrition, actions and investments must be guided by a comprehensive understanding.

We need to increase investment in science and innovation to move to sustainable production and food systems transformation; investments in innovation include, but goes far beyond, digitalization.



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Digital agriculture has great potential to foster the transformation of agrifood systems and promote rural development, it is a key accelerator to achieve this transformation; FAO's mandate is to assist countries in close coordination with the RBAs , financial institutions and the private sector.

The outcomes of this important event must be part of a broader perspective;

They need to be integrated and part of the 2023 SDG Summit in September in New York in order to accelerate the progress towards ending poverty, reducing inequalities , facing climate change impact and protecting the environment .

Goals that must be high on the international agenda of the G20, the G8 and implemented into national strategies as well as part of a new business model by the Private sector .

The lesson that we have learnt from the COVID19 pandemia is that we cannot face any crisis alone; we must act all together if we really want to look at the year 2030 as a Goal and make a real difference.

Thank you.