

UN Food Systems Summit +4 Stocktake

SESSION REPORT

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Type (click one):

☒ Plenary

☐ Ministerial Roundtable

☐ High-level Panels

☐ Featured Event

☐ Investment Dialogue

☐ Stakeholder Action Session

From vision to action: the power of political will for inclusive, resilient, healthy and sustainable food systems

28 July 2025 | 11:30-12:50

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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. Dr. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations	Opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Before the session began, DSG invited the participants to observe a minute of silence in tribute to Sir David Nabarro, honoring his lifelong dedication to advancing global movements for

better nutrition, stronger health systems, and sustainable, inclusive food systems.

Interventions from the floor

SPEAKER	QUESTION OR KEY POINT OF INTERVENTION
1. Indonesia	Reaffirmed its strong commitment to transforming food systems into healthier, more equitable, sustainable, and inclusive models. Key initiatives include a new national development plan to 2029, a large-scale free nutritious meal program targeting over 80 million beneficiaries, promotion of food self-sufficiency through blue and local foods, and support for climate-smart, nutrition-sensitive agriculture. The country also emphasized mobilizing innovative and blended financing to attract private sector investment.
2. Côte d'Ivoire	Described how nutrition has become the highest priority and is placed at the centre of its development agenda, following its membership in the SUN Movement. The government has launched a multisectoral nutrition plan aimed at food sovereignty and human capital development, supported by broad agricultural investment and ecosystem restoration programs. The country called for stronger institutional and financial environments to transform African food systems.
3. Oman	Highlighted its focus on sustainable use of natural resources and improving nutrition through strategies that emphasize animal diversity and pollution reduction. Water resource management is a key government priority, with legislation implemented to protect it. Programmes supporting smallholder farmers and small businesses were also noted.
4. Uzbekistan	Shared its progress in agricultural development since 2013, with notable increases in food production and exports. The country has adopted a climate-responsive strategy that blends human effort with technological advancement. Reducing food loss and waste, along with promoting STEM-based solutions, was also emphasized.
5. Armenia	Described agriculture as a vital part of its economy and food security agenda. The country's food policy is guided by studies identifying policy gaps and supply chain vulnerabilities, prompting a push for resilience and reduced import dependency. Major milestone strategies like 2020-2030 strategy for agricultural development and a 2023 food security action plan aim to improve innovation, efficiency, and self-sufficiency despite climate and geopolitical challenges. One of the key goals remains advancing on agrarian policies that promote high value and organic agriculture and improving food security.

6. Saudi Arabia	Reiterated its prioritization of food security and sustainable agriculture. The government has significantly increased agricultural investment and adopted technologies to expand production. Strategic support has been directed to youth, women, and smallholders, with comprehensive plans for soil, water, and agriculture driving transformation, indeed the country has increased its investments by 1000% over the past five years. The country called for fostering a multidisciplinary approach that relies on the cooperation across sectors.
7. Algeria	Outlined its roadmap to integrate food systems transformation with national food security strategies. Actions include scaling up agricultural development in desert areas, building water reservoirs and dams, and desalination stations, and establishing food preservation infrastructure. The desalination stations specifically are contributing to the irrigation of 60% of the Algerian agricultural lands. Additionally, the Green Dams have led to the increase of agricultural and producible land. Youth and women are central to its efforts, with partnerships at all levels fostering innovation.
8. Rwanda	Showcased its inclusive approach to food systems transformation by aligning national strategies with the 2050 Vision and Kampala Declaration. Initiatives include scaling up nutrition-sensitive agriculture, investing in youth-led enterprises, and homegrown school feeding. The country called for improved financing mechanisms, particularly for women and youth, and emphasized monitoring and accountability.
9. Tanzania	Shared a comprehensive package of reforms supporting climate-smart agriculture, value chain development, and rural markets. Key achievements include forming the Presidential Food and Agriculture Delivery Council and creating a transformation program and master plan extending to 2055. Public investment in agriculture, especially in Zanzibar, is also being scaled up.
10. Belgium	Reaffirmed its commitment to a fair, resilient, and healthy food policy, grounded in multilateralism and a rights-based approach. With 14% of its cooperation budget dedicated to food systems, Belgium supports agroecology and innovation. The country has highlighted that although innovation is vital, it should be paired with proven sustainable practices like agroecology. Belgian NGOs work closely with family farmers to address hunger, malnutrition, and rural poverty. Additionally, all three regions of Belgium have their own strategies working to accelerate transition to sustainable food systems.
11. Belarus	Pointed to external pressures, especially unilateral sanctions, as major contributors to global food insecurity. It called for the removal of these measures, arguing that they disrupt fertilizer and grain supplies worldwide.

	Belarus emphasized its role as a major producer and exporter of food and agricultural inputs, including humanitarian contributions.
12. Azerbaijan	Stressed that resilient food systems are vital for achieving the SDGs and addressing climate and conflict-driven challenges. The country advocated for digital transformation in agriculture, investment in innovation, education, and connectivity, and prioritizing nutritious food. Azerbaijan emphasized the need for international cooperation in science and technology to drive sustainable agricultural progress.
13. Yemen	Shared the severe impact of war and climate change on its food systems, including reduced agricultural output and depleted fisheries. The government is working to expand social protection, support small-scale farmers, and invest in rural infrastructure, especially for youth and women. Yemen appealed for both humanitarian and long-term support to modernize its agriculture sector and secure livelihoods.
14. Equatorial Guinea	Described its efforts to overcome outdated and insufficient agricultural systems despite rich natural resources. The government has developed strategic plans aligned with SDGs, promoted inclusive national dialogues, launched a National Food Security Programme, and supported smallholders and women. Investments include a tuna cannery and food waste reduction initiatives, but continued UN support remains vital.
15. Bhutan	Framed its food systems transformation within its unique philosophy of Gross National Happiness. The country promotes organic and regenerative farming, low fertilizer use, and nutrition programs like “One Child, One Egg.” Bhutan is linking food systems to climate resilience, youth engagement, and mindful investment. Upcoming international summits will highlight Bhutan’s holistic approach, while the country continues to face challenges such as climate stress, land fragmentation, and labour shortages.
16. Djibouti	Stressed that hunger should no longer be an issue in the 21st century and called for African leaders to take moral and political responsibility to end it. Despite resource scarcity and climate change, Djibouti maintains a resilient agricultural sector and advocates regional cooperation, modern technology adoption, and local value chain strengthening. The country emphasized supporting farmers, especially youth, through financing, training, and infrastructure, and reaffirmed its commitment to global partnerships to end hunger in Africa.
17. Ghana	Presented its flagship “Feed Ghana” program as the driver of agricultural modernization, improved productivity, and economic transformation. The initiative strengthens seed and fertilizer systems, irrigation, mechanization,

	and digital services, while expanding value chains and promoting climate-smart agriculture. Ghana has also launched targeted financing tools, such as the Women's Development Bank, expanded the School Feeding Program, and invested in poultry and backyard farming. These measures aim to improve nutrition, link local production to school meals, and enhance incomes, particularly for women and youth, while contributing to SDGs on hunger, health, and climate action.
18. Thailand	Reaffirmed its political will to translate the UNFSS vision into national action, emphasizing integrated governance, inclusive economic and financial systems, and the use of science, technology, and capacity building to achieve SDGs. Thailand is localizing food committees to ensure national strategies respond to local needs.
19. India	Outlined a transformation approach driven by multi-stakeholder dialogue and focused on resolving market disconnects, improving nutrition, and boosting job creation. Achievements include rapid growth in horticulture, livestock, and fisheries, ambitious nutrition programs supplying cereals to two-thirds of the population, poverty reduction from 27% to 5%, and gender equality gains.
20. Guinea	Highlighted a national vision for a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable food system, emphasizing governance, policy planning, monitoring, resilience, and sustainability. Efforts focus on supporting small-scale producers, strengthening value chains, and integrating youth and women into agro-industrial systems.
21. Portugal	Reaffirmed its commitment to the 2030 Agenda, promoting multisectoral approaches, territorial cohesion, and social justice in food policy. It supports small farmers, regenerative agriculture, and scientific evidence-based strategies, and is a founding member of the G20 Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty.
22. Central African Republic	Described its eight-point roadmap for inclusive, climate-resilient food systems, focusing on empowering women and youth, promoting local markets, and integrating indigenous peoples. Financing remains a key challenge.
23. Ukraine	Underscored its role as a global food supplier despite war, noting progress on its 2030 agricultural strategy focused on healthy diets, sustainable production, and EU alignment. Ukraine called for investment in its green recovery, support for smallholders, and evidence-based decision-making.

24. Haiti	Called for resilient and sovereign food systems as part of post-crisis recovery, emphasizing peace, public-private partnerships, and international investment to enable agricultural reform.
25. Namibia	Outlined its climate-resilient national food pathway, integrating early warning systems, sustainable land and water management, and empowerment of women and youth to strengthen value chains and achieve food self-sufficiency.
26. Burundi	Emphasized integrated, multi-sector approaches to food systems reform, embedding food security in national policy, empowering small producers, and financing projects through women's banks and cooperatives to drive economic growth and climate adaptation.
27. Iraq	Reaffirmed food security and sovereignty as constitutional rights, emphasizing technology transfer, international cooperation, and private sector engagement to achieve sustainable and inclusive transformation.
28. Nepal	Emphasized that its constitution enshrines the right to food and food sovereignty as fundamental rights, framing them as both a legal mandate and a moral-political responsibility. Nepal has enacted a right-to-food-sovereignty law and, despite challenges in sustaining food production and ensuring food system stability, has launched a Food System Transformation Strategic Plan. Efforts include localizing transformation pathways and empowering municipalities to implement context-specific actions. Called for fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships to achieve sustainable and equitable food systems.

Marco Riccardo Rusconi, Director of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, Italy	Closing remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global crises since 2021 have exposed risks of dependence on external food sources, hitting vulnerable countries hardest and threatening chronic food insecurity. • Food sovereignty means each country's right and capacity to meet its own food needs while preserving their traditions and cultural identity. • Agriculture must be attractive for youth, combining tradition with innovation, technology, and knowledge so they become active agents of change. • People are central to food system transformation, with education, training, and local innovation as key drivers.
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H.E Dr. Girma Amente, Minister of Agriculture, Ethiopia	Closing remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethiopia applies a whole-of-society, farm-to-fork approach with coordinated governance from national to local levels, private sector, and partners. • Progress is tracked through detailed indicators, with most flagship programs aligned to the food systems pathway. • Priorities include scaling up best practices with all stakeholders, attracting sustainable investment, and continuing to learn and share experiences globally. • Ethiopia's initiatives include cluster farming, the green legacy program, bounty of the basket, and homegrown school feeding, all integrated into its national food system strategy.
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Overall session summary, conclusions and recommended actions (max 250 words)

This plenary served as an important platform to reflect on progress since the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit and the 2023 UNFSS+2 Stocktaking Moment. Moderated by Agnes Kalibata (, UN Special Envoy for the 2021 Food Systems Summit) and Khaled Eltaweel (Senior Coordinator, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub), the plenary brought together Ministers and senior representatives from a wide range of countries to share concrete national experiences, policy innovations, and emerging priorities in the transformation of food systems. The session opened with a tribute to Sir David Nabarro, announced by DSG Amina Mohammed, honoring his lifelong commitment to advancing better nutrition, stronger health systems, and sustainable, inclusive food systems. It was followed by a UN video illustrating global progress, innovative approaches, and lessons learned since the 2021 Summit, illustrating both the global scale of challenges and the creativity of local solutions. The session featured diverse ministerial interventions highlighting achievements in nutrition programs, climate-smart agriculture, digital innovation, value chain strengthening, and inclusive governance.

Countries detailed context-specific strategies—ranging from large-scale school feeding schemes and women-focused financing models, to regenerative farming, desert agriculture, and agri-food digitalization—while also acknowledging persistent challenges such as climate shocks, resource scarcity, geopolitical instability, and financing gaps. A recurring theme was the need to balance local solutions with regional and global cooperation, ensuring that transformation efforts remain inclusive, sustainable, and resilient. The session closed with remarks from the UNFSS+4 co-hosts Ethiopia and Italy, reinforcing the collective commitment to accelerated action.

Discussions reaffirmed that political leadership, cross-sectoral coordination, and inclusive governance are critical enablers of food systems transformation. National experiences demonstrated the importance of tailored approaches that integrate social protection, climate adaptation, market access, and innovation. The plenary also highlighted the urgency of addressing inequalities by empowering smallholders, women, youth, and marginalized communities, and of mobilizing adequate resources to scale up impactful initiatives.

Among the recommended actions were the need to deepen multilateral and regional cooperation to address cross-border food systems challenges; invest in institutional capacity to ensure coherent, integrated policy implementation; and strengthen inclusive stakeholder participation, particularly of smallholders, women, and youth. Countries emphasized aligning food systems strategies with climate action, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable resource management, while leveraging science, technology, and innovation to drive progress. Expanding financing opportunities, including concessional, blended, and private sector-led mechanisms, was seen as essential for building long-term sustainability, resilience, and equity.