

# UN Food Systems Summit +4 Stocktake

## SESSION REPORT

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- ☒ Stakeholder Action Session

## Business Session: Towards Greater Corporate Accountability

29 July 2025 | 11:00 - 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. Mr. Gerbrand Haverkamp, Executive Director, World Benchmarking Alliance	Moderator	Accountability ensures companies' impact is consequential to their own business interests.

		<p>Every value chain has those who lag behind; accountability can address this.</p> <p>The UN is uniquely positioned to lead this agenda with genuine global impact.</p>
2.Ms. Sanda Ojiambo, Executive Director and Assistant Secretary-General, United Nations Global Compact	Opening Remarks	<p>Accountability must exist at corporate and state levels.</p> <p>Local and regional contexts are critical; these have and will be informed through on-the-ground consultations.</p> <p>UNGC, WBA and UNEP with partners (Coalition for Corporate Accountability in Food Systems) launched a Corporate Accountability Blueprint to guide companies, governments and non-state actors across the food systems value chain.</p> <p>Upcoming consultations will involve all stakeholders. The development of the Blueprint needs to be a collective, consultative process.</p>
3.Ms. Ertharin Cousin, President and CEO, Food Systems for the Future and Board Member, Bayer AG Supervisory Board	Fireside Chat	<p>Building consumer trust is essential.</p> <p>Transparency and accountability lead to stronger policy and regulation.</p> <p>Informed consumer decisions rely on transparency.</p>
4.H.E. Dr Faniran Sanjo, National Convenor and Director, Social Development Department, Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Nigeria	Government Speaker	<p>Nigeria has built a food systems dashboard to inform climate, food and social protection.</p> <p>Emphasized transparent reporting frameworks, including consumer and CSO input.</p> <p>Accountability must be data-driven and citizen-focused.</p>
5.Dr. Inaya Ezzedine, National Convenor and Member of Parliament, Lebanon	Government Speaker	<p>Urged reduction in market concentration, antibiotic and pesticide use.</p> <p>Accountability requires legal mandates, SDG alignment, independent verification and shared responsibility.</p>

6. Mr. Jarot Indarto, Director of Food and Agriculture, The National Planning and Development Agency (Bappenas), Indonesia	Government Speaker	<p>Accountability requires all stakeholders to be involved.</p> <p>Public data systems and multi-stakeholder engagement are necessary.</p>
7. Ambassador Ms. Wampie Libon, Director of Inclusive Green Growth and Ambassador of Sustainable Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands	Government Speaker	<p>Companies must increase transparency.</p> <p>Benchmarks help policymakers find critical gaps.</p> <p>Data availability and incentives for better practices across the food systems value chain are essential.</p>
8. Ms. Susanne Stormer, Partner, Sustainability Services Leader, PwC and Board Member, Access to Nutrition Initiative (ATNi)	Panel	<p>Business leaders want fact-based decision-making.</p> <p>Private sector needs a clear framework to act.</p> <p>Companies are part of a multi-stakeholder group, not the center.</p> <p>What is needed in smarter reporting, not more reporting.</p>
9. Dr. Fabrice de Clerck, Chief Science Officer, EAT Foundation	Panel	<p>Urged use of science and planetary boundaries for accountability metrics.</p> <p>Partnership needed among science, business and policy.</p>
10. Ms. Francine Picard Mukuzi, Co-founder and Director of Partnerships, Shamba Centre for Food and Climate, and Coordinator, Zero Hunger Coalition	Panel	<p>Positive corporate actions should be amplified through constructive dialogues.</p> <p>Need to maintain constructive multistakeholder dialogues, provide evidence for action and support efforts.</p> <p>Zero hunger private sector pledge - roadmap that highlights 10 high-impact areas for investment to end hunger.</p>
11. Ms. Christine Campeau, Global Policy Director, Food and Nutrition Systems, CARE	Panel	<p>Decent work policies and guidelines must be integrated into the blueprint for corporate accountability in food systems.</p> <p>In 2023, CARE worked with ILO on policy guidelines for the promotion of decent work in the agri-food sector</p>

12. Mr. Douglas Kativu, Director Africa, Global Reporting Initiative	Panel	<p>Data credibility is a major concern and must be addressed.</p> <p>Current frameworks tend to exclude SMEs, especially in Africa.</p> <p>Investors are a key audience for data.</p>
13. Ms. Laura Wellesley-Squires, Forest, Land and Agriculture (FLAG) Lead, Climate Arc	Panel	<p>Corporate data tends to be fragmented and siloed.</p> <p>Data is often behind paywalls; thus, inaccessible to civil society.</p> <p>More clarity needed on transition pathways (e.g., regenerative agriculture - what does this really mean?).</p>
14. Mr. James Lomax, Food Systems Coordination Unit, Ecosystems Division, UNEP	Closing Remarks	<p>Must include large corporations to drive genuine change.</p> <p>Trust must be built between the private sector and the UN.</p> <p>Accountability hinges on reliable data.</p>
15. Ms. Lara Blanco, Director Sustainable Development, Executive Office of the Secretary-General, United Nations	Closing Remarks	<p>Trust is foundational to accountability.</p> <p>Must clarify who is accountable for what.</p> <p>Food systems are complex; must maintain mutual accountability.</p> <p>Ongoing engagement and structured dialogue are critical.</p>

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

The session discussed the critical role that corporate accountability plays in food systems transformation. Accountability makes company impacts consequential and drives alignment with sustainable development goals. The UN is positioned to lead this effort through a consultative approach, clear targets and public data tracking. A new blueprint, the Coalition for Corporate Accountability, was announced to guide companies across the food systems value chain. Transparency and trust were identified as being central to this transformation.

Data access and uptake are necessary for consumer decision-making, stronger regulatory implementation and improved corporate accountability. Governments highlighted the need for national dashboards, legal frameworks and inclusion of consumer and civil society voices. Calls

were made for international mechanisms to reduce harmful practices, market concentration and ensure co-responsibility. Speakers stressed the importance of a roadmap that builds on existing tools, uses science-based metrics and includes SMEs, not just large corporations. Financial institutions were identified as key to enforcing ESG standards and incentivizing better practices. Public, affordable data are critical.

Mutual accountability, shared responsibility and continuous stakeholder engagement were identified as core pillars. The session concluded that accountability must be collaborative, data-driven and rooted in trust to enable meaningful food systems transformation. Following UNFSS+4, the Coalition for Corporate Accountability, led by UNGC, WBA, UNEP and partners will continue to run multi-stakeholder consultations. The Coalition will reconvene at UNGA80 and COP30 to continue development of the Blueprint to clarify the responsibilities of businesses, as well as the measurements and actions needed to meet the growing demand for sustainable business practices throughout their operations.