

Statement by

**His Excellency Oumer Hussein, Minister of Agriculture,
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia**

Rome, Italy, 26 July 2021

- **Heads of State and government**
- **Your Excellency**
- **Distinguished guests in this hall and those online**
- **All protocols observed**
- **Ladies and gentlemen**

It is an honor and a distinct pleasure to stand in front of you and declare my government's unreserved commitment to transform Ethiopia's food system under the support of the UNFSS. The UNFSS, spearheaded by the Secretary General, is designed to be a means of accelerating implementation of the 17 SDGs.

We have developed Ethiopian Food System (EFS) transformation pathways around the 5 'Action-Tracks' of the Food System which are: access to safe and nutritious food, consumption pattern, positive production, equitable livelihoods and resilience.

On the 15th of July 2021, we officially launched and adopted the 22 game changing solutions that resulted from three consecutive dialogues designed to transform EFS.

Ethiopia recognizes the urgency of transforming Food Systems; we know the challenges first hand. We have already accorded the highest priority to end hunger, achieve food and nutrition security and promote sustainable agriculture.

However, the achievements thus far are not sufficient; we still have a long way to go to address the food insecure communities of Ethiopia. Looking forward, we will focus on resource allocation and mobilization to effectively execute the Game Changing Solutions leading to EFS transformation.

For Ethiopia, transforming the food system is assuring the social, economic, and environmental wellbeing of our society. We cannot afford to slow or delay taking bold decisions by realigning to our national policies, strategies, and programs in support of the system.

- **Distinguished Guests**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

Ethiopia will implement the 22 Game Changing Solutions of which the following require special attention;

1. Establishing a finance system for farmers to access credit, insurance and other financial services.
2. Timely supply of production inputs, extension and advisory services to boost productivity
3. Rural electrification in a climate smart ways to enhance production, integrated agro industries & other services.

4. Sustainable land use and administration -- introducing integrated landscape and watershed management.
5. Promote nutrition literacy & nutrient dense foods to improve nutrition and dietary diversity for all with special attention to enhance school feeding programs.

As we embark on implementing the EFS pathways, we call upon our development partners, donors, research organizations, and philanthropies to join us in achieving this bold vision: **a decade of prosperity and nutritious food for all Ethiopians.**

On this occasion, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to His Excellency Antonio Guterres for his bold action in convening the UNFSS, and support of the country dialogue teams.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the contributions of all our development partners, governmental and non-governmental organization for providing unreserved technical and financial contributions to bring the EFS to its present stage.

Thank you!