



**Mr Grzegorz Puda, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development**  
**UN FSS Pre-Summit, 26-28 July 2021**  
**Poland: National pathway preparations statement**  
**English text**

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Poland has begun implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, already taking them into account in the national Strategy for *Responsible Development*, which is the most important strategic document showing the way forward for Poland's development in the medium-term perspective. The new development model defined in this strategy is a responsible, socially and territorially sustainable one. It also has an inclusive character, as its driving force and priority is social cohesion.

The high quality food sector has been indicated as one of the strategic sectors for the Polish economy.

Goal 2 of the 2030 Agenda was operationalised in the national *Strategy for Sustainable Development of Rural Areas, Agriculture and Fisheries 2030*. Its main objective is the economic development of rural areas, enabling a sustainable increase in income for their residents, while minimising economic and social stratification, and improving the condition of the natural environment. Thus, the objectives of the most important Polish strategic documents are completely in line with those defined in the 2030 Agenda.

As part of the preparations for the Food Systems Summit, we have chosen action track number 1, titled “*Ensure Access to Safe and Nutritious Food for All*”. On 26 May 2021, the Polish National Dialogue was organised, titled “*Building a food identification system in Poland, which provides participants of the food chain with access to transparent and credible information on how and where food is produced*”. The National Dialogue was integrated with works on the *Passports of Polish Food* project and is in line with action track number 1 and links with track number 2, “*Shift to Healthy and Sustainable Consumption Patterns*”. The new system will include high-quality, reliable food product information that cannot be falsified. It will ultimately be made available both to the food safety and quality services, as well as to other food chain participants, including consumers.

We have already initiated works on a national pathway for transformation of food systems in support of the 2030 Agenda, engaging numerous experts from scientific circles, practitioners, and specialists from agricultural administration.

In accordance with the adopted work schedule, the first draft of the national pathway is subject to expert consultations till the end of July. The starting point for works was the diagnosis of the state of the food system in Poland, developed in connection with the *Strategy for Sustainable Development of Rural Areas, Agriculture and Fisheries 2030*.

We are also guided by strategic projects of the Ministry of Agriculture, including those resulting from the Polish New Deal, which is a comprehensive government program addressing various economic and social needs resulting from COVID-19 developments.

Further on, we are planning to hold consultations with social partners, and finally to define “milestones” in the implementation of the national pathway for transformation of food systems

Based on the initial results of the work, I can already say that we will continue to strive to ensure the continuation of a multifunctional and sustainable model of agriculture. Such a model guarantees food security, supplies public goods, including environmental ones, promotes the development of entrepreneurship linked with the agri-food sector, and stimulates social and territorial development (including cultural functions of rural areas).

We would also like to engage public funds more strongly in areas like the promotion of a healthy lifestyle and proper nutrition habits, promotion of sustainably produced food (including organic) and elimination of the carbon footprint in the entire life cycle of food products. We attach special importance to the education of children and youth as well as better communication with consumers by improving food labeling.

The above assumptions, after agreement and verification which I have mentioned earlier, will be presented in more detail in the national food systems transformation pathway.

Thank you for your attention.