

**Statement of Mr.Taras Kachka,
Deputy Minister of Economy of Ukraine**

Your Excellency, esteemed colleagues, everyone involved,

Ukraine has the honor to congratulate the participants of the Pre-Summit on Transformation of Food Systems as an important stage in the processing of a common vision of the world community on the implementation of the Agenda 2030 and a corresponding change in approaches to the formation and implementation of national policies in the context of global challenges facing humanity.

Ukraine is one of the world's guarantors of meeting the global demand for food and a country with a high potential to increase its role in the formation of a sustainable (stable) food supply through the inclusive and effective development of food systems. Ukraine this year joined the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) UN FAO and chaired the International Grains Council, which opens up additional opportunities for us to integrate deeper into the global food systems. And in the unstable period of adaptation of the world to the conditions of COVID-19, Ukraine remained a predictable and reliable partner, without imposing restrictions on the movement of food.

Accordingly, all elements of the food system are of key interest to the stakeholders in the national framework for achieving sustainable development. In the process of searching for national consensus on approaches to transforming food systems, three areas of action were identified, which reflect the most significant measures for Ukraine, together they are rethinking approaches to national policy.

It should be noted that the formation of positions was significantly influenced by common global challenges - pandemic restrictions and the ever-increasing impact of climate change on people's lives and the state of the environment.

The first priority is "Healthy food for all". Realizing the basic value of food for every citizen, the importance of ensuring equal access for all groups and categories of the population to quality nutrition and appropriate diets, joint efforts will be aimed at sustainable consumption, changes in gastronomic culture, reduction of food losses and food waste, support for the introduction of food safety systems and the recovery of the catering business after the pandemic, the development of craft and local production.

In this context, we welcome the direction of the Action Coalition "School Meals: Nutrition, Health & Education for Every Child", since we have a similar initiative in Ukraine, which is being implemented under the patronage of the First Lady, Mrs. Elena Zelenska.

The importance of the second priority area "Environmentally friendly production", in addition to global trends and challenges, is explained by the fact

that Ukraine as a whole has made progress on 15 out of 17 Sustainable Development Goals. According to the latest estimates, it is precisely Goals 13 and 15, on combating climate change and preserving terrestrial ecosystems, that are making insufficient progress. This led to a response from society, a balanced and consensus position on the need to develop measures in the areas of policy development, which can be conditionally called a "Smart Green Deal" for Ukraine, as a movement towards climate neutrality of production, a response to climate challenges through the development of technologies, including the transformation of activities small producers, the introduction of the condition for obtaining state support for compliance with certain agro-ecological requirements, an emphasis on resource efficiency and environmental safety, the transformation of irrigation systems, and in general - the continuation of the policy in accordance with global recommendatory and binding international documents and agreements.

The priority area "Resilience to market instability and the availability of food for all" is focused in particular on economic and social aspects and is aimed in general at strengthening the domestic market and stimulating exports in combination with strengthening interaction with global humanitarian organizations, implementing practical steps to development inclusive food systems in Ukraine and support for small producers, food security and the transition to sustainable production and marketing models, the development of financial instruments. Separately, I would like to note the emphasis on digital transformation as part of national policy.

The public discussion within the framework of the National Dialogue is now underway, which will result in the National Action Plan for the Transformation of Food Systems as a mandatory component of the authorities' activities. It is this broad and participatory discussion involving all stakeholders that allows us to outline compromise and necessary solutions on the persistent path to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through the transformation of food systems.

From these positions, a useful overview is the direction of the "Coalition to End Hunger".

Let me express my gratitude for the opportunity to join this global process, use the materials prepared by the Scientific Group and other active participants, exchange experiences and opinions.

Thanks for your attention.