

United Nations Food Systems Summit - 23 September

Dr. Alberto Fernández, President of Argentina

“I wish to congratulate the Secretary-General on having chosen Food Systems as the topic for this Summit.

In this context, I consider that FAO must make a substantial contribution.

In Argentina, food systems comprise a variety of actors, including small and medium-sized producers, agricultural cooperatives, family farms and large production structures.

For decades, we have been developing and adopting technologies that have enabled us to improve the efficiency of food systems, in keeping with the three pillars of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental. We are convinced that the agricultural sector is a fundamental part of the solution in order to reach global food security in a sustainable way.

Local realities and national possibilities must be taken into account, with due regard for the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. Our goal must be to produce in a sustainable manner, without giving exclusive priority to any single pillar of development over the others.

It is essential to build a rules-based international trade system, with the WTO at its core, as well as to remove, as soon as possible, the distortive and protectionist agricultural policies that have traditionally been detrimental to efficient agricultural producers, especially in developing countries.

I hope that, as a result of this Summit, we will grow stronger in our conviction and our actions, with a view to attaining the lofty Sustainable Development Goals on the 2030 Agenda. In order to contribute to this process, Argentina has adhered to the School Canteen Coalition, an area in which we have vast and valuable experience.

Mr. Secretary-General, the world can continue to count on Argentina to keep contributing healthy, safe and nutritious food that is produced in a sustainable manner. In this way, we hope to contribute to the eradication of poverty, to ending hunger and to progressive distribution of income; to the efficient and sustainable use of natural resources; and to national development, while leaving no one behind.

Thank you.”