

Secretary General,...Your excellencies,...Distinguished guests,...
Ladies and gentlemen.

It is an honor and a distinct pleasure to stand in front of you and declare my government's unwavering commitment to transform Ethiopia's food system under the patronages of the United Nations Food System Summit.

The Government of Ethiopia has an unwavering commitment to both the Sustainable Development Goals and food systems transformation. We wholeheartedly share the United Nation's vision of a prosperous world, with safe and nutritious food for all, biodiverse and sustainable food systems, equitable incomes and resilience to shocks and extreme events.

Over the past two decades Ethiopian Agriculture has grown rapidly, while overall consumption has increased, level of hunger has been reduced by half and childhood malnutrition and stunting have also reduced dramatically. However, we recognize the continued necessity of accelerating the pace of food systems transformation to continue our journey to eliminating hunger, creating an equitable food system and achieving the promise of the SDGs, despite the shared challenges of rapid population growth, biodiversity loss and climate change that we must all address.

To catalyze FSs transformation and inaugurate a decade of action to achieve the SDGs, the Government of Ethiopia initiated a process to design the Ethiopian FS plan. We brought together a coalition of over 120 experts from over 40 organizations, spanning government bodies, UN agencies, NGOs, civil society organizations and universities and research institutes. Through a multi-stage and multi-sectoral process built on national dialogues we have devised a vision for food systems transformation, comprising of 22 game changing solutions.

We seek to transform our food systems using a sustainable and healthy diet-centered lens that minimizes tradeoffs through calling for strong collaboration across all food systems actors, uniting around a common goal of healthy and sustainable diets for all. The Ethiopian food systems plan centers on six

Clusters, each of which will be achieved through implementing their respective game changing solutions:

1. Nutrient dense food production; food safety, fortification and rural electrification and appropriate climate smart technologies.
2. Supply and value chain development, national food based dietary guidelines, and nutrition literacy and awareness creation
3. Integrated policy-making, land reform, and improved government finance provision for agricultural and rural transformation
4. Agricultural technologies, innovation and input supplies.
5. Access to markets, market Information, infrastructure, and specialization
6. Managing and Mainstreaming Risk and Protecting the Poor.

Ethiopia is taking bold steps. The EFS vision represents a significant moment in Ethiopia's development and a unique opportunity to accelerate progress towards creating an inclusive and equitable food system. This would increase agricultural production and productivity, provides food security, promotes health and nutrition, conserves our precious land and natural resources and protects the most vulnerable. We therefore call upon our development partners, both continental and international, to join us and help achieve the bold vision, address the challenges we are facing as a nation and ensure that the upcoming decade is one of prosperity for all Ethiopians.

Thank you for your attention!