

Food Systems Summit - 23 September 2021
Translation of the Declaration by Mr. Laurent ANSELMi, Minister of Foreign Affairs and
Cooperation of the Principality of Monaco

Mr. President of the General Assembly,
Ladies and Gentlemen, Heads of State and Government,
Excellencies,

I regret not being able to meet you in New York today, but I am pleased to have the opportunity to send this message on the occasion of the Food Systems Summit.

Mr. Secretary General,

I thank you for organizing this unprecedented Summit, convened in 2019, on the eve of an unprecedented health crisis.

Allow me to congratulate the work carried out by your Special Envoy, Mrs. Agnès KALIBATA and her team.

Hundreds of millions of people were already suffering from hunger before the current pandemic, however, together with the effects of climate change, 130 million more people could be pushed into chronic hunger.

It is therefore up to us to consider all the data resulting from these simultaneous crises and to make them the foundation of our public policies.

This is a moral imperative.

As proof, let us listen to the warning that the IPCC has just launched once again.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Decisive action is needed now.

Food systems contribute to more than a third of global greenhouse gas emissions. Food waste alone is responsible for a large part of these emissions. This Summit, together with COP 26 on climate, offers a unique opportunity to transform our food systems.

Having joined the Alliance for Multilateralism, the Principality of Monaco supports the actions and initiatives forged within the United Nations. In our view, only a concerted response from States is up to the challenges of our time, including food security.

Indeed, Monaco responded to the Secretary General's emergency call to fight famine in Burkina Faso and Madagascar.

My country has, moreover, chosen food security and nutrition as one of its four pillars of its ODA. We are thus firmly committed to the realization of SDG 2, the Decade of Action on Nutrition and the Decade of Family Farming.

Mr. Secretary General,

International organizations headquartered in Rome have become preferred partners of the Principality and as such, I would like to pay tribute to one of them: the World Food Program (WFP), which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020. With WFP, we are funding school meals programs, to encourage children to go to school, and leverage human development.

During the Pre-Summit in Rome, the Principality announced its support to the “Coalition for school meals: Nutrition, health and education for every child”. Monaco did not miss the opportunity to unite its voice with those of the 190 countries attending the summit.

We welcome the goal of the Summit to raise public's awareness on how to produce, consume and view our food and to put forward concrete solutions.

Now more than ever, it is incumbent upon the international community to reaffirm its commitments to fight hunger and malnutrition. *“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink” Matthew 25:35-40*

Thank you.