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# MINISTERIAL STATEMENT BY MINISTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT GRACE FU AT THE VIRTUAL UN FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT

## Excellencies

1 The UN Food Systems Summit is a timely call for collective action to transform our global food system, so as to ensure food security for all.

2 In light of the world's growing food demand and the threat of climate change to food supply, agriculture and food systems must become more sustainable and climate-resilient. Food security can also be affected by disruptions to global supply chains. We must stay nimble and harness innovation to transform our food systems.

3 As a small city state, Singapore has no natural resources. Over 90% of our food comes from over 170 countries and regions. Trade in food and other goods is a vital part of ensuring food security for all countries. We must therefore ensure that trade continues to flow and find innovative ways to further increase connectivity.

4 For instance, we can augment the prevailing point-to-point mode of transport for food with other modalities, such as transshipping through trusted third countries. This would be a shift from a "just-in-time" supply chain model to a "just-in-case" model, where regional distribution centres in hubs can help increase overall supply chain resilience. Organisations such as Codex, the FAO, and the ISO can relook existing standards or

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come up with new standards to facilitate such trade flow, while ensuring food safety.

5 To supplement our food supply, Singapore has set ourselves a “30 by 30” goal, to produce 30% of our nutritional needs locally by 2030. This is a very ambitious target given our land and resource constraints. We must leverage on technology to grow more with less. Innovative solutions such as vertical farms are productive and use less land. Growing food in controlled environments also has the benefit of minimising the impact of climate change and extreme weather.

6 We are also looking at novel foods such as alternative proteins, which can be game changers for high-yield food production. We hope that these new methods can contribute to greater food security.

7 As Singapore progresses on our food journey, we seek to enhance the resilience of our food supply chains, and become a “living lab” for food technologies and urban farming solutions. We hope that this will benefit not just Singapore but be a pathfinder for cities around the world.

8 Thank you.

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