

SWEDEN – H.E. Prime Minister Stefan Löfven
– National Statement

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great honour to address you all today.

The right to food is a human right.

Food systems are complex.

They include many aspects of our common challenges: equality, the environment, the climate, working conditions and health – to name a few.

Gender equality in food systems is especially important.

But food systems also provide great opportunities. Sustainable food production should be regarded as a key solution to our global challenges.

The food sector – and particularly the agricultural sector – is affected by climate change. This makes it important to develop a food system that can mitigate – and adapt to – the effects of a changing climate.

In Sweden, substantial work has been done based on our current food strategy. It has enabled us to expand dialogue with actors in the food system, and build strong partnerships between the public and private sectors.

In our national pathway, we are taking further steps to deepen public and private partnerships and dialogue.

We will also continue to work towards a more sustainable food system, and we have identified areas of particular importance: school meals, food loss and waste, healthy and sustainable diets, research and innovation, and ‘One Health’.

These are areas in which Sweden will engage in order to enhance our efforts even further.

The Food Systems Summit must generate an ambitious outcome. A robust system of follow-up and review, within existing structures, is necessary to ensure progress beyond the Summit.

The transformation of our food systems must address all dimensions of sustainability, in line with the 2030 Agenda.

Thank you.