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# UN Food Systems Summit

23 September 2021  
Virtual

Address by the President of the Swiss Confederation, Guy Parmelin

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Mr Secretary-General

Excellencies

Ladies and gentlemen

Switzerland congratulates the Secretary-General on this summit, which has been instrumental in raising awareness of the need for a transformation towards sustainable food systems.

This transformation is a real opportunity to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, particularly in view of the fact that all of its goals are related to food systems.

This is why Switzerland has shown a strong commitment to the summit, including through our support to the Secretariat and the organisation of various dialogues.

Promoting a holistic approach to environmentally, economically and socially sustainable food systems has long been a Swiss priority.

We promote this approach in our international cooperation, as well as through multilateral organisations and multi-stakeholder initiatives such as the One Planet Network.

At national level, we have recently adopted our new Sustainable Development Strategy. This strategy sets out four strategic directions and concrete measures to achieve the following targets in relation to sustainable food systems:

- A third of the population has a healthy, balanced and sustainable diet;
- Decreasing food waste by half;
- Reducing the carbon footprint from production to consumption by a quarter;
- Increasing by one third the number of farms with particularly environmentally friendly production methods.

This strategy is our pathway to contribute to the SDGs by 2030 through sustainable food systems.

In line with the Sustainable Development Strategy, we are currently revising our climate strategy for agriculture in order to redirect the food sector towards the goal of zero net emissions by 2050.



The strategy also includes the development of an action plan against food waste.

Finally, the strategy not only highlights the importance of agroecology in fostering the sustainability and resilience of food systems – it also serves as a basis to continue organising dialogues on the transformation of food systems.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

The success of this summit will be measured by its transformative impact.

The Action Areas will play a crucial role in this context.

Within these areas, Switzerland will be committed to the coalition on agroecology, and support other issues such as healthy food and food waste.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen

I am confident that this summit represents a major step forward in the transformation of our food systems.

That said, to achieve a real transformation that leaves no one behind, it is vital to promote human rights and participatory as well as inclusive forms of governance at all levels.

Finally, this transformation must be achieved not only for but also with Youth!

Thank you!