Statement at the United Nations Food Systems Summit

By Mr. Tang Renjian,
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Mr. Chair,

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear friends,

As we speak, the world is suffering from the grave impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is taking a toll on global food security. It is therefore of far-reaching significance for the United Nations to convene the Food Systems Summit that brings together countries worldwide for essential discussions on global food security.

As China has a large population, the Chinese Government has since day one made it a top priority to ensure that everyone has adequate access to food. The nation has seen a tremendous improvement in its overall food productivity thanks to more than 70 years of tireless efforts.

China’s food production reached 669.5 million Metric Tons in 2020, surpassing 650 million Metric Tons for the sixth consecutive year.

By feeding a population of 1.4 billion with food that is produced in less than 9 percent of the world’s arable land and accounts for 20% of the global food production, China has made an enormous contribution to global food security.

With an increase of 3.693 million Metric Tons recorded in the production of summer crops and the promising growth of autumn crops, food production is expected to remain strong for this year.

As President Xi Jinping emphasized, food security is an issue fundamentally relevant to the survival of mankind.

With 811 million people still affected by undernourishment globally, the task of achieving the zero hunger goal of the UN 2030 Agenda remains a daunting one.

It is important that all stakeholders join hands to transform global food systems, deliver common and sustainable development and foster shared growth for the global community. To this end, I would like to make three proposals.

First, we need to elevate food production capacity. Countries should prioritize food production and agriculture, invest more in agriculture and rural communities, advance science and technology, improve infrastructure, and embrace green transformation to
increase food availability in a sustainable way.

**Second, we need to ensure unimpeded supply chains.** Efficient, open and equitable food supply systems are essential to end hunger. All stakeholders should actively promote trade liberalization, facilitate investment, lift unjustified trade restrictions, and reduce food loss and waste to increase the accessibility of food supply.

**Third, we need to enhance the governance on food and agriculture.** The role of UN agencies should be leveraged to intensify North-South, South-South and Trilateral Cooperation and provide more financial and technological support to developing countries, thus driving progress towards the building of an efficient and sound global food and agriculture governance system.

Thank you!