UNFSS Presummit den 26.-28. juli 2021

Denmark’s Statement

• In the next decade, we need to achieve a substantial increase in food production to meet the demand from a growing world population.

• We must combat increasing hunger and malnutrition. At the same time, we need climate adapted agriculture and food systems that more effectively use scarce resources and pollute less.

• Transforming our food systems to become more sustainable is critical in order to strengthen food security, improve human health, and build resilience to climate shocks and pandemics.

• We need to reflect on the true costs of our food systems to build back better and greener within the planetary boundaries.
• The UN Food Systems Summit is a landmark opportunity to make food systems more sustainable and greener.

• Denmark is committed to contribute actively to the Summit in order to reach concrete and scalable results and progress towards all the Sustainable Development Goals and the climate goals in the Paris agreement.

• In April 2021, Denmark hosted the World Food Summit and a Danish National Food Systems Summit Dialogue. Focus was on how to establish pathways for game-changing innovations that are necessary for sustainable food system transformations.

• Emphasis was on game-changing innovations in the areas of:
  - Climate-friendly dietary guidelines
- Reduction of food loss and food waste.
- Prudent use of antimicrobials and prevention of resistance, and
- deforestation-free value chains.

• These important game-changing innovations will form the foundation of the Danish National Pathway for Food Systems transformation, which we will present at the Food Systems Summit in September.

• The Danish Government is already paving the way towards more climate-friendly diets through a new set of official food-based dietary guidelines, which not only guide people on how to eat healthier, but also on how to eat more climate-friendly.

• Denmark has also established a think-thank on how to find sustainable solutions to reduce
significantly food waste and food loss. Public-private-partnerships and voluntary agreements, as well as new technology and nudging consumers towards behavioral change is the way forward.

- On anti-microbial resistance, Denmark advocates for a “One Health” approach as well as responsible use. Global cooperation is key to win the fight against antimicrobial resistance.

- That is also why Denmark has taken the initiative to establish the International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions (ICARS) to spur cooperation on fighting AMR in developing countries.

- We also focus on how to halt deforestation. We believe that an integrated and cross-cutting approach is needed and requires action from all
actors along the supply chain from raw materials to dinner tables.

- Only then will we be able to ensure the benefits for biodiversity, climate change, ecosystems, local communities and human health in general.

- On a more global scale, Denmark has identified Anticipatory Action to prevent famines, and School meals programs in developing countries as important scalable innovations.

- We need a shift towards anticipatory action and combine humanitarian short-term food assistance with longer-term sustainable solutions. We need to build resilient food systems that can cope with shocks from pandemics and climate change.

- On school meals, Denmark expects to join the School Meals Coalition together with many other
states. We know that school meals works on the ground.

- It keeps hunger and malnutrition at bay. And it provides a social security network for vulnerable children – especially in developing countries.

- We look forward to working with all countries and stakeholders to reach concrete and scalable results at the Summit, and an effective follow-up with strong commitments to action from governments and all other relevant stakeholders.

Thank you.