I. Introduction: Relevance of the UN Food Systems Summit

- I would like to send greetings to Rome from the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Berlin.

- We are here to tackle one of the key challenges faced by the international community:
  
  - the transformation of the world’s food systems
  
  - for more sustainability, resilience and cooperation.

- Even before the pandemic, we knew that our food systems were at risk:
  
  - poverty, climate change, loss of biodiversity and fertile agricultural land, exploitation of natural resources and conflicts
  
  - these are all factors that endanger the reliability of our food systems.
• At the same time, these are challenges that we can only meet hand in hand – as one global alliance.

• The United Nation’s 2030 Agenda with its Sustainable Development Goals is showing all of us the way to a better world.

• To a world in which the human right to adequate food can be realised and in which our natural resources can be protected at the same time.

• This is why the UN Food Systems Summit in September is of paramount importance to our Federal Government:

• It will raise global awareness of the fight against all types of malnutrition and poverty.

• We want to develop a joint international vision for sustainable and viable food systems.

• And we will determine what we all can and should contribute to sustainable food systems.

• We have to walk the talk.

• We have done important groundwork at our national dialogue.

• The UN Food Systems Summit is a chance to present these activities and experiences to an international audience.

• As an example, we are supporting the World Food Programme’s school feeding coalition.

• As a member of the High-Level Steering Committee, I am delighted to support healthy and sustainable school nutrition.
II. Prerequisites for future-proof and sustainable food systems

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- Germany welcomes a global transition to sustainable food systems.
- Through our National Sustainability Strategy, Germany is making an important contribution to the transformation of the agri-food industry.
- During Germany’s Presidency of the Council of the European Union, we negotiated a realignment of the Common Agricultural Policy.
- This means that there will be a system change
- towards better environmental protection and climate stewardship – in all European Member States.
- In general, the food systems of the future should clearly identify weaknesses and challenges of the existing systems–
- including poverty, the noticeable impact of climate change and especially the exploitation of natural resources.
- It is essential that the pending transformation process takes all stakeholders into consideration.
- Science-based findings must become the basis of political decisions.
- Food safety must be guaranteed through international standards.
- Public health must be ensured by implementing the One Health approach.
• Sustainable and healthy diets must be promoted by means of improved consumer information and through access to healthy diets.

• Lifelong learning for all stakeholders must be promoted through a systemic approach to education.

• To achieve this, we are supporting the summit through our EU Council conclusions.

III. Concluding remarks

Ladies and Gentlemen,

• Germany strongly advocates the demands made by the United Nations Food Systems Summit.

• We have to

• firstly, identify concrete measures for the development of sustainable food systems,

• secondly, form partnerships, multi-stakeholder formats and coalitions for action,

• and thirdly, establish an effective follow-up mechanism in order to consolidate our concerted efforts.

• We must also ensure that we build on tried and tested structures on an international level.

• Examples of this include our support of the work done by the Committee on World Food Security.
• The United Nations Food Systems Summit will **be a key driver for realigning the global food system.**

• I firmly believe that this pre-summit is the right forum for the **necessary groundwork.**

• In this spirit, I wish you and all of us every success!

• Thank you very much!