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PFM Statement - II. STRENGTHENING COORDINATED POLICY RESPONSES TO THE FOOD CRISIS –THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD 2024

Thank you to the Chair for the opportunity to speak and for recognizing the role of the mechanisms within the Committee. We would also like to take this moment to thank the Bureau, Advisory Group, and the Secretariat for their commitment and ongoing support to the CFS.

Unfortunately, we are witnessing the world drifting away from our collective goal of achieving zero hunger. As private entities dedicated to public purposes, philanthropic foundations are increasingly called upon to address the escalating challenges posed by disrupted food systems.

Foundations are collaborating with one another and with various bilateral and multilateral donors to launch initiatives that tackle these pressing issues. Our unique position allows us to take risks, fund exploratory research, catalyze essential processes, support community-led initiatives, and build local capacities. We are committed to uplifting civil society actors who are often marginalized from development processes and who form the core advocates for food security at the local, national and international levels. But, as the latest SOFI report has demonstrated, the resources that philanthropies invest in food security, nutrition, and food systems is relatively small in the total landscape of financing, which suggests that we need to continue to grow a community of funders committed to equitable and sustainable food systems. Increasing the commitments of philanthropic foundations to equitable and sustainable food systems is the principal logic of the PFM.

The Committee on World Food Security has a unique opportunity to promote the right to food as a key instrument for addressing multiple crises in a coordinated, participatory manner, fostering solutions rooted in dialogue.

We welcome the CFS's decision to closely examine the impact and uptake of its policy decisions and its efforts to enhance its engagement with other UN processes and HLPE panels that influence food security, nutrition and the transition towards agroecological food systems. There is a pressing need for better coordination among these processes, and the CFS should continue to lead global discussions on food governance. We are making efforts to better understand how foundations investments align with CFS priorities, and we are committed to working across the CFS community to ensure the adoption and implementation of CFS products.

We welcome other ongoing efforts to advance the global food security and nutrition agenda. In particular, we welcome the G20's initiative to establish the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty. We simply will not achieve SDG2 and related goals if we don't level up our efforts, our coordination and our financing. We are encouraged by the G20's negotiations, which have established a critical link between this Committee and the Alliance. It is now up to this community to fully leverage this opportunity. Philanthropic organizations are in conversation with G20 leaders to explore how our philanthropies, collectively, could make a significant contribution to that Alliance.

The coming year will be a critical one for food systems, and for the entire sustainable development agenda. We look forward to engaging in discussions in the upcoming High Level Forum on strengthening responsible investments and financing for Food Security and Nutrition. These discussions are timely, and urgent.

We are a diverse group of philanthropies, each with its own approach, strategy and priorities, but we recognize the need to work together in support of a shared goal of a world free of hunger and malnutrition and a transition towards truly equitable and sustainable food systems. Some of the key topics of our interest include: a) redirecting public investments, incentives and subsidies to food



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systems that respect environmental and human rights principles; b) investing in agro-ecological transformations, and in *inclusive* transformation of agrifood systems, including closing gender gaps; c) incorporating environmental and social accounting in investments; and d) strengthening an ecosystem of funders to finance food system transformations through public, private, grassroots, and blended finance approaches.

In conclusion, we reiterate that we take this responsibility seriously. This commitment reflects our ongoing effort in philanthropy to elevate food security, nutrition, and food systems transformation within global processes while collaborating with diverse actors.

Thank you.