PFM Philanthropic Foundations Mechanism

PFM Statement - ITEM II Floor Intervention. Matheus.

- Thank you, Chair, for the floor. It's a privilege to address this Plenary speaking on behalf of the Philanthropic Foundations Mechanism - PFM
- As expressed by my PFM colleague previously in the panel, the numbers of the SOFI 2026 report gives us both a sense of hope and a sense of urgency.
- We recognise that the CFS is the foremost platform for food security and nutrition policy, supported by the expert guidance of the HLPE. The policies developed here over many years can help us deal with the current challenges raised in the SOFI for achieving healthy, affordable diets. But in order for these policies to fulfil their potential, we must accelerate their implementation.
    - For this reason, the PFM is committed to stronger uptake of CFS policy products. We recognise their value in guiding our work - ensuring what we do is aligned to global priorities and policy frameworks, supporting our civil society partners to advocate for policy shifts in their jurisdictions, and informing the way we resource impactful organizations.
    - For that, as expressed before, we have developed a guidance document for the philanthropic community.
- Many of the priority areas that our members are working on have the potential to contribute positively to more accessible, affordable healthy diets globally.
    - For example, the philanthropic community is actively tracking conversations on Artificial Intelligence. While foundations see significant potential for AI applications, for example, in smallholder-targeting advisory services and tailored climate information, we believe equitable access to technology and safeguards are needed for ensuring this transformative potential of AI for FSN. Many philanthropy-supported organizations stress the need for building AI governance, particularly on transparency, safety and data justice. Potential applications should have real outcomes on elements of food systems as broad as climate adaptation and resilience, data collection, and should be beneficial to smallholder food producers and the poorest of the poor.

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    - Many of our members are also actively supporting initiatives to reduce the prevalence of UPFs in our food environments and better understand their health impacts, and are supporting organizations that challenge disproportionate corporate concentration in food systems. We're pleased that the SOFI highlighted the affordability of healthy diets this year and proud that our members have supported underlying analytical work. The role of the UN agencies and their expertise in preparing this work is worth appreciation. We also want to give particular attention to the finding that 70-75% of the high costs of healthy diets are driven by post-farmgate activities, underscoring the importance of addressing the structural features of agrifood systems that drive affordability and accessibility.

- Finally, we want to end by noting that this is a critical moment of the Committee. We are embarking on the development of the next MYPoW whilst crises to and in food systems are only growing - conflict, climate change and the El Nino cycle, unregulated AI, corporate concentration, and deepening inequalities.

- We call on members of the Committee to develop the MYPoW in the spirit of collaboration and assess prioritization and trade-offs that the CFS should consider. We should also not forget the core principles of the CFS - preserving inclusive and participatory processes, supporting the progressive realisation of the Right to Food.