**CFS POLICY PROCESS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON FOOD SYSTEMS AND NUTRITION**

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSIONS**

1. **Does Chapter 1 adequately reflect the current situation of malnutrition and its related causes and impacts, particularly in line with the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda? What are the underlying problems that currently hinder food systems to deliver healthy diets?**

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| Paragraph 21 - Another related issue that needs to be highlighted is land use for agriculture and the location of markets for accessing safe and nutritious food. |

1. **What should be the guiding principles to promote sustainable food systems that improve nutrition and enable healthy diets? What are your comments about the principles outlined in Chapter 2? Are they the most appropriate for your national/regional contexts?**

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| Paragraph 36 - On the guiding principles "a) Systemic and holistic and evidence-based approach." I think it should also include "…seeks to simultaneously maximize outcomes and reduce externalities across all sustainability dimensions". Using a systemic approach can help identify the multidimensional causes of malnutrition and identify key strategic points for implementation. The same approach may be used to identify unintended consequences that implementation of policies may bring. |

1. **In consideration of the policy areas identified in Chapter 3 and the enabling factors suggested in paragraph 41 of the Zero Draft, what policy entry points should be covered in Chapter 3, taking into account the need to foster policy coherence and address policy fragmentation?**

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| A possible entry point to foster policy coherence and address policy fragmentation is through the empowerment of local or sub-national governments, who are often the implementing arm of national policies and initiatives for food systems and nutrition. National policies may be well-designed, but the gap may exist in implementation if the implementing arm does not have the resources and capabilities. Local and sub-national governments can also be effective in designing food systems and nutrition initiatives that can respond to local needs and available natural, financial and human resources.  In this suggested entry point, empowering local and sub-national governments can be through enhancing capabilities of local planners and policy-makers in planning local food systems. National policies that can provide local and sub-national governments with autonomy on land use and fiscal decisions may also be needed to empower them. |

1. **Can you provide specific examples of new policies, interventions, initiatives, alliances and institutional arrangements which should be considered, as well as challenges, constraints, and trade-offs relevant to the three constituent elements of food systems presented in Chapter 3? In your view, what would the “ideal” food system look like, and what targets/metrics can help guide policy-making?**

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| In "a) Food deserts and food swamps", aside from encouraging the availability of outlets enabling healthy diets, options for making food production closer to consumption in urban areas such as urban agriculture may be encouraged. Another option aside from public food procurement is encouraging Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) that can help ensure urban communities have stable access to food while rural smallholder producers have stable access to markets.    Paragraph 53 - Food quality standards, particularly fresh produces, needs to be changed from looking mainly at physical and cosmetic attributes to nutritional content and value. Food quality standards imposed by supermarkets and consumers that are based on appearance can lead to waste, which can drive an increase in prices and adversely affect sustainability. A case in point is tomatoes grown in Australia wherein almost 90% of harvests is rejected for not meeting the required physical appearance <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/oct/13/you-say-tomato-retailers-say-waste-research-finds-produce-problem>. This can also be the case in developing countries where private quality standards can reduce profitability of smallholder farmers. |

1. **How would these Voluntary Guidelines be most useful for different stakeholders, especially at national and regional levels, once endorsed by CFS?**

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| The Voluntary Guidelines in its present form can provide stakeholders at the national and regional levels with ideas and points that are important to consider in designing policies for food systems and nutrition. It may further encourage stakeholders to adopt these guidelines if pathways can be presented, considering limited resources of governments and stakeholders. It may be presented as to which of the points in the guidelines may be adopted first that can provide the greater impact or serve as a key driver to change. It is recognized that presenting a key driver is context-specific, but this may be supported by examples. |