

Please allow me to make 6 points in 2 minutes !! :

1. Preliminary estimates on the impact of COVID-19 on world undernourishment range between 83 and 132 million people while an ADDITIONAL 130 are facing acute food insecurity as a result of the economic impact of COVID-19. However, chronic and acute hunger and deficient nutrition in critical points of a child's growth can have catastrophic effects on physical and cognitive abilities with long economic and social costs for the global community.
2. People facing hunger and abject poverty and destitution, employ negative coping strategies selling assets, reducing health and education expenditures with important irreversible effects on their livelihoods and beyond.
3. The upshot is that there long-term costs of COVID which are difficult to assess: we need appropriate data, information and building capacity for better targeting and decision-making to prevent them.
4. We should not wait for a catastrophe to "build back better". The long term agenda for building a sustainable food system is identical with an agenda which would prevent future pandemics: Many epidemics or pandemics are rooted in environmental change and ecosystem disturbances. Since 1940, agricultural drivers were associated with more than 25% of all, and more than 50% of zoonotic — infectious diseases that emerged in humans.
5. Successful ST-based solutions should be built on the basis of foundational principles and governance tools to ensure a link between ST-solutions and the UN core values and human rights principles. Digital technologies can be a strategic enabler of development but the multiple barriers preventing poor peoples' access to and participation in the Information Society and reap its multiple benefits should be addressed.
6. Finally, we should not let the curse of the urgent engulf the long term agenda: The UN has a fundamental role in making sure

that the two go hand-in-hand. It is my feeling that, in many contexts some of the long term sustainability issues are being put on the back burner.

Thank you Madame Chair