

**Input for the 2025 High-level Political Forum
FAO-Committee on Commodity Problems (CCP)**

1. Your assessment of the impacts of the multiple and interconnected crises on the implementation of SDGs 3, 5, 8, 14 and 17.

The multiple and interconnected crises – including hunger and malnutrition, climate change, geopolitical tensions, and economic setbacks – have resulted in multidimensional and profound development setbacks and hindered progress to achieve the SDGs.

According to the 2024 edition of The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) report, the prevalence of undernourishment has stayed relatively unchanged for three years but remains above pre-pandemic levels. In 2023, about 733 million people (9.1 percent of the global population) faced chronic hunger, up from 581 million people (7.5 percent) in 2019. The report projects that 582 million people will remain chronically undernourished by 2030, which represents around 130 million more undernourished people compared to the scenario prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, underscoring the urgency of intensifying efforts to combat hunger.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes markets and trade as key means of implementation for achieving the SDGs. In this regard, the CCP:

- recognized that while global food and agricultural markets have recently stabilized, they continue to be vulnerable to shocks, including logistical disruptions, climate-related events, pests and diseases, economic setbacks, unjustified and unnecessary trade distortions and export restrictions in a manner inconsistent with relevant WTO provisions, and conflicts and wars;
- stressed that the current challenges facing agricultural commodity markets may have serious implications for food security and sustainability in the medium-term and recognized the need for additional efforts to improve sustainable agricultural productivity and production and to ensure food security and nutrition;
- emphasized the significant challenges currently facing global agricultural supply chains, particularly in view of the urgent need for transformation, as appropriate, towards resilient and sustainable agrifood systems.

2. Three key areas where sustainable, inclusive, science-and evidence-based solutions for achieving the SDGs and leaving no one behind are being effectively delivered, especially related to the cluster of SDGs under review in 2025, also bearing in mind the three dimensions of sustainable development and the interlinkages across the Goals and targets.

FAO's work under the mandate of the CCP focuses on enhancing the transparency and efficiency of food and agricultural markets and trade. This is achieved through the provision of information and analyses, technical assistance, and the facilitation of policy dialogue events, all contributing to the

needed transformation of the agrifood systems to become more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable. Central to FAO's work under the CCP mandate is the production and dissemination of timely and objective data and information on commodity markets and related policy developments to support policy decisions.

- Market transparency. The CCP highlighted the significance of market transparency and the importance of timely and reliable data and information on agricultural commodity markets and related policies, in particular during times of increased uncertainty, as well as the significance of monitoring developments in global fertilizer markets.
- Agricultural trade. The CCP emphasized the role that agricultural trade plays as an enabler for achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting the transformation of agrifood systems, as appropriate, and in accordance with national priorities and capacities.
- Agrifood systems transformation. The CCP highlighted the importance of the transformation of agrifood systems, as appropriate, and in accordance with national priorities and capacities, for strengthening the sustainability, inclusivity, and resilience of agricultural commodity markets.

3. Three examples of measures to accelerate progress towards SDGs through well-coordinated actions in key transitions to bring progress to scale (food security, energy access and affordability, digital connectivity, education, jobs and social protection, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution), building on interlinkages between SDGs to ensure cohesive progress.

- Enhancing market transparency and policy coordination. The Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS), launched in 2011 by the G20 Agriculture Ministers following the global food price hikes in 2007/08 and 2010, is an inter-agency platform, housed in FAO, that aims to enhance food market transparency and policy responses for food security. Bringing together major trading countries of agricultural commodities and supported by 10 international organizations, AMIS assesses global food supplies and provides a platform to coordinate policy action in times of crisis. The CCP emphasized the significant role played by AMIS in enhancing market transparency and coordinating policy responses and called on countries to support the initiative.
- Strengthening global early warning systems. The FAO Global Information and Early Warning System on Food and Agriculture (GIEWS) was created in 1975 in response to the food crisis of the early 1970s. GIEWS provides comprehensive market intelligence on staple food commodities and supports initiatives to establish and enhance early warning systems, supporting early action to increase resilience. GIEWS issues warnings alerting decision makers on imminent food crises to allow timely and proper responses. The CCP acknowledged the increased importance and relevance of GIEWS, in particular in view of the increasing risks and uncertainties to world food security.
- Supporting evidence-based policy decisions. FAO's flagship report The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO) is produced every two years, in conjunction with the CCP sessions. SOCO

aims to highlight agricultural commodity market and trade issues and policy matters, providing an evidence-based analysis of economic issues for governments and actors interested in agricultural commodity market and trade policy developments and their impacts on food security. The 2024 edition of SOCO was on the theme of trade and nutrition.

4. Follow-up actions and measures being undertaken by your intergovernmental body or forum to support implementation of the 2023 SDG Summit Political Declaration and the outcomes of the 2024 Summit of the Future, to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The CCP provides guidance to FAO's work on markets and trade through deliberations on emerging issues and recommendations on work priorities. At its 76th session, the CCP reviewed and endorsed the priorities for FAO's work in commodity markets and trade. These include commodity market monitoring, assessment and outlook; food security monitoring and assessment and early warning; food and agricultural trade; responsible global value chains; and servicing governance and intergovernmental processes. The Committee also requested FAO's future work to consider the particular challenges and opportunities in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

As part of the Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPOW) of the Committee, the following events were held in 2023-24, with the aim to provide a platform for stakeholders to share knowledge, exchange experiences, and promote a better understanding of critical and emerging issues.

- Event on "Repurposing agricultural support to transform agrifood systems", held on 1 June 2023.
- Event on "Towards more sustainable and resilient agrifood systems: The importance of global value chains", held on 30 October 2023.
- Event on "What happened in the world of shipping and what could the future look like?", held on 11 September 2024.
- Event on "Promoting women's participation in international agrifood trade: Current practices, challenges, and prospects for inclusive trade", held on 12 September 2024.

5. Recommendations and key messages to be considered for inclusion in the Ministerial Declaration of the 2025 HLPF.

- Highlight the significance of market transparency and the importance of timely and reliable data and information on commodity markets and related policies, in particular during times of increased uncertainty.
- Underline that food trade is crucial for many countries to improve availability and access to diverse foods and meet their energy and nutritional needs.

- Underline the significance of multilateralism and the importance of the rules-based, non-discriminatory, open, fair, inclusive, equitable and transparent multilateral trading system with the WTO at its core, for promoting agricultural and rural development and contributing to world food security and improved nutrition.
- Highlight the importance of keeping open the trade of food and agricultural products consistent with relevant WTO provisions in order to avoid the negative impacts on global food security and nutrition, while also preventing trade distortions and unjustified trade barriers in this respect.
- Underline the importance of keeping open, fluid and transparent trade of fertilizers in order to reduce uncertainty and avoid the negative impact on global food security.
- Stress the importance of harmonizing, where appropriate, sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures, including through international standards, which can facilitate food trade and improve food safety and nutrition.
- Underscore the importance of the transformation of agrifood systems, as appropriate, and in accordance with national priorities and capacities, for strengthening the sustainability, inclusivity and resilience of agricultural commodity markets.
- Highlight the importance of increasing agricultural productivity and production in a sustainable manner for achieving food security and improving nutrition and the need for additional efforts in this regard.