

JOINT SUBMISSION – PROPOSALS TO INCLUDE FOOD SYSTEMS IN THE OUTCOME OF THE FIRST GLOBAL STOCKTAKE

INTRODUCTION

The Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT, CGIAR, Consumers International, the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), and WWF International are pleased to submit views on the elements for the consideration of outputs component in the First Global Stocktake.

This submission highlights the need for a Global Stocktake outcome which recognises the importance of food systems transformation and accelerates the shift towards sustainable, climate-resilient, healthy, and equitable food systems that deliver benefits for food and nutrition security, adaptation, resilience, and mitigation. This submission outlines a series of key high-level political messages, and proposals for the Global Stocktake decision text (“indicative draft structure for GST1 CMA5 decision”).

KEY HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL MESSAGES

1. **Now is the time to scale up action and provide investments for food systems transformation.** Parties should build sustainable, climate-resilient, healthy, and equitable food systems that deliver benefits for food and nutrition security, adaptation, resilience, and mitigation.
2. **Parties should transform food systems by prioritizing and combining approaches with high potential for both mitigation and adaptation,** such as sustainable food production, reducing food loss and waste, shifting towards healthy and sustainable diets and nutrition, as well as conserving and restoring ecosystems.
3. **A combination of supply-side actions and demand-side interventions across the entire food system are essential to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.**
4. **Parties should establish or strengthen national targets, strategies, and plans for food systems transformation** and ensure that those are embedded in NDCs, National Adaptation Plans, and Long-Term Strategies.

PROPOSALS FOR THE GLOBAL STOCKTAKE DECISION TEXT

PREAMBLE

- Ending hunger, safeguarding food security, and ensuring nutrition security are fundamental priorities that are undermined by climate change. The current food system is particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and is failing to tackle food insecurity in an environmentally sustainable way.
- Enhanced climate action across food systems is urgently needed to achieve the objectives of the Paris Agreement and of the Convention, support the livelihoods of billions of people, and enable universal access to healthy and sustainable diets and nutrition.
- Building sustainable, equitable, healthy, and resilient food systems requires action to phase-out fossil fuels, and conserve and restore ecosystems.
- Food systems are responsible for around 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions: achieving net zero emissions globally by 2050 requires transformation of all sectors of the economy, including food systems, and support for low-emissions development in developing and emerging economies.

CONTEXT AND CROSS-CUTTING CONSIDERATIONS

- Parties should urgently take action across the entire food system to shift towards sustainable, climate-resilient, healthy, and equitable food systems that simultaneously stop hunger, safeguard food security, and provide benefits for livelihoods, adaptation, resilience, and mitigation.

COLLECTIVE PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE PURPOSE AND LONG-TERM GOALS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT

MITIGATION

- Parties should transform food systems by prioritizing and combining approaches with high potential for mitigation, such as reducing the GHG intensity of food production, reducing food loss and waste, shifting towards healthy and sustainable diets and nutrition, enhancing sinks in production lands, and conserving and restoring natural ecosystems.
- Key approaches to reduce emissions and improve the economic performance of food production systems include agroecology, regenerative practices, improving livestock nutrition and growth rates, improved water and residue management in rice production, improved nutrient management to reduce N₂O emissions, increasing erosion control, etc. Additional options include increasing soil organic matter through cover crop management, reduced tillage, integrating legumes into crop rotation, agroforestry, and other practices.
- Demand-side mitigation can be achieved through reducing post-harvest losses, dietary change, and reducing food waste.

ADAPTATION

- IPCC findings outline that only the combination of supply-side actions and demand-side interventions across the entire food system will allow the achievement of the Paris Agreement goals and the implementation of adaptation strategies without threatening food security.
- Parties should transform food systems by prioritizing and combining approaches with high potential for transformative adaptation, such as sustainable food production, reducing food loss and waste, shifting towards healthy and sustainable diets and nutrition, and conserving and restoring ecosystems.

MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

- The transformation of food systems is underfunded and only a small proportion of global climate finance is dedicated to food systems.
- It is critical to increase the quantity, quality, and equitable access to climate finance supporting the transformation towards sustainable, climate-resilient, healthy, and equitable food systems, recognizing their significant role for climate adaptation and mitigation. A significant share of that finance should be accessible by smallholder farmers.
- More specifically, finance should be channelled to support sustainable food production practices, to reduce food loss and waste, accelerate the shift towards healthy and sustainable diets and nutrition, enhance sinks in production lands, and conserving and restoring natural ecosystems.

GUIDANCE AND WAY FORWARD

- Parties should establish or strengthen national targets, strategies, and plans for food systems transformation and ensure that those are embedded in NDCs, National Adaptation Plans and Long-Term Low Emissions Development Strategies (LT-LEDS).
- As Parties revise their 2030 NDCs and develop new 2035 NDCs, they should consider activities that better integrate food systems with clear targets and increasing ambition.
- National targets, strategies, and plans for food systems transformation should include scaled-up commitments to shift towards sustainable food production practices, reduce food loss and waste, and transition to healthy and sustainable diets and nutrition.
- To support enhanced national action on food systems transformation, the Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture and food security should be requested to adopt a food systems approach to deliver on its objectives.

ENDORSED BY:

