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Tuesday, 9 February

1:00 - 2:15 PM (CET)

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Programme

Moderator:

Mr. Juan Carlos García y Cebolla, FAO Right to Food Team Leader

Opening remarks:

Mr. Hans Hoogeveen, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Mr. Gabriel Ferrero, Director General for Sustainable Development Cooperation Policies of Spain

Video:

Mr. Michael Fakhri, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food

Panelists:

Dr. Sania Nishtar, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation of Pakistan

Ms. Elsa Simões, Deputy Permanent Representative to FAO, IFAD and WFP of Cabo Verde

Mr. Hem Mulders, Global Head F&A Strategy and Policy for Rabobank, PSM Representative

Ms. Elisabetta Recine, Professor, FSN Observatory, University of Brasília, CSM Representative

Q&A

Language: English, Spanish and French

Ensuring the human right to adequate food for sustainable food systems

The COVID-19 pandemic brought a global health emergency that is putting at risk people's right to adequate food all over the world. The pandemic sheds light on the indivisible linkages between the right to health and the right to food, and the importance of multisectoral and multistakeholder approaches such as the human rights-based and One Health as the way ahead.

The Food Systems Summit 2021 urges to take bold actions to ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all in order to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The United Nations declared 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH), as plants make up 80% of the food we eat and are under increasing threat from pests and diseases. The recent report and interim issue paper by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE), as well as publications by FAO, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and World Bank, among others, call to build more sustainable food systems and to ensure the right to food.

This side-event will highlight emerging issues during the COVID-19 pandemic showing profound linkages between plant protection, food safety, health, climate change, gender and capacity development for women, biodiversity and adequate standards of living. Although they are usually dealt with separately, they have a high potential to contribute to less vulnerable, more inclusive and sustainable food systems.

An interactive panel will explore best practices and provide policy recommendations to better connect key dimensions of the right to adequate food. It will address multiple dimensions, actors and technical areas of food security and nutrition, particularly relevant during and after the COVID-19 crisis.

Speakers

► Mr. Hans Hoogeveen

serves as Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the UN Organizations for Food and Agriculture. Previously, he was the Director General for Agriculture and Nature Management at the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs. Over the course of the last two decades, Mr. Hoogeveen served in numerous international functions, recently as Chair of the CFS Open-Ended Working Group on Food Systems and Nutrition. Mr. Hoogeveen is Professor of Practice in Natural Resource Policy at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Boston. He received his Doctorate from the Wageningen University.

► Mr. Gabriel Ferrero

is Director General of Sustainable Development Policies of Spain. Previously he has served as Senior Adviser for the 2030 Agenda Implementation. He worked as Senior Policy Adviser in the Executive Office of the United Nations Secretary General from 2011 to 2017. Before joining the UN, he served as Deputy Director General of Development Policies Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. Mr. Ferrero holds a PhD on Development Planning and Management from the Polytechnic University of Valencia.

► Mr. Michael Fakhri

assumed functions as Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food in 2020. He is a professor at the University of Oregon School of Law. His research focuses on human rights, agroecology and commercial law. He is also the director of the Food Resiliency Project in the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Center. Mr. Fakhri holds a Doctorate from the University of Toronto. During his practice as a lawyer, he fought for the rights of people who were indigent and incarcerated in a psychiatric institution.

► Dr. Sania Nishtar

is Special Assistant of Pakistan's Prime Minister and Federal Minister on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety. She chairs the Benazir Income Support Program. She is a member of the United Nations Global Alliance on Poverty Eradication and chairs the United Nations International Institute for Global Health's Advisory Committee. Dr. Nishtar is also a member and former chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on the Future of Healthcare. She has founded the NGO Heartfile and served as a federal minister in the Pakistan government in 2013. She holds a Doctorate in Science from the Kings College London.

► Ms. Elsa Simões

is the Alternate Permanent Representative of Cabo Verde to the UN Organizations for Food and Agriculture. She has broad experience in project management, procurement, monitoring and evaluation, public service and agriculture policies. She is highly knowledgeable in the private sector and particularly interested in food quality, food marketing and quality methodologies applied to agriculture. Ms. Simões holds a PhD in Agriculture and Environmental Sciences from the University of Évora. Ms Simões is also member for Africa of the International Steering Committee of the International Year of Plant Health since its establishment.

Speakers

► Mr. Hem Mulders

joined Rabobank in 1987 and has since then held various roles across disciplines and geographies. He currently holds the position of Global Head for Food & Agri Strategy & Positioning. Mr. Mulders is responsible for a framework that supports the definition and execution of Rabobank's vision on food and agriculture, through the coverage of cross sector/geography themes such as COVID-19 impact, nutrition, climate change, environment and capital aspects.

► Ms. Elisabetta Recine

is a nutritionist with academic and governmental experience in food and nutrition policies, food and nutrition security, and the right to food. Currently, she is a professor at the University of Brasília. She was President of CONSEA (National Council of National Council for Food and Nutrition Security - 2017-2019) and is member of the Commission of the Popular Conference for Sovereignty and FNS and the Steering Committee of the Brazilian Alliance for Adequate and Healthy Food. Ms. Recine has also been a member of the Steering Committee of the High-Level Panel of Experts and its Project Team for the 12th HLPE Report on "Nutrition and Food Systems". She holds a PhD in Public Health.

► Mr. Juan Carlos García y Cebolla

is the FAO Right to Food Team Leader. Previously, he also joined the Manager Team of FAO' Strategic Program 1 as Food Security and Nutrition Governance Senior Officer and coordinated the program supporting the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean Initiative in Chile. He also worked for the private sector in Spain supporting governments and cooperation agencies in Africa and Latin America. Mr. García y Cebolla holds a Master's degree in Agricultural Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Madrid.

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The Netherlands and Spain represent the broader informal Friends of the Right to Food Group of Member Countries in Rome (made of Norway, Switzerland, South Africa, Czech Republic, Germany, Brazil, France, Cuba, Italy, Hungary, Portugal, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Argentina, Spain, Thailand, Mexico, Netherlands, Indonesia and Burkina Faso).

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