Inventing in sustainable food systems to end hunger

Mr President and dear colleagues

We would like to congratulate you on choosing this topic «Investing in sustainable food systems to end hunger by 2030» and we would like to share with you some initiatives concerning this theme, developed at European, national and CPLP levels.

The search for sustainable food systems has been a concern of the European Union.

Realizing that 820 million people globally continue to suffer from chronic hunger, this demand has become even more urgent.

The Green Deal, European Ecological Pact proposes to focus economic policy around the sustainability and well-being of citizens, as an integral part of the European Commission’s strategy to fulfill the 2030 Agenda and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The Strategy “From Farm to Fork” under discussion, is the action of the Green Deal oriented to agriculture with a view to the Greening of the CAP.

Family Farming is an essential sector in food production all around the world. About 80% of the food produced in the world comes from family farming, revealing their importance to achieve food and nutrition security but also for the sustainable production of foods by proper management of natural resources and the preservation of biodiversity.

There is no doubt, therefore, that eradicating poverty and hunger depends heavily on the development of family farming.

Promoting better public policies in favor of Family Farming also contribute to the reduction of inequality, and to the fight against climate change.

Also in 2018, Portugal created the National Council for Food and Nutritional Security, which is a public and civil platform, a dialogue space with its multiple actors from the academic sector to the business sector. This Council promotes and stimulates the implementation of measures and actions related to the application of the Right to Adequate Food, in accordance with the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food agreed within the FAO.

Finally, I would also like to highlight the efforts made in Portugal to combat food waste, through the implementation of its Strategy to Combat Food Waste approved in 2018.
The Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) is a multi-economic, social and cultural institution that brings together 9 countries and more than 270 million people spread across the four corners of the world, Africa, America, Asia and Europe, united by language, history and common willingness to cooperate and help each other.

In 2011, the CPLP agreed on a Food and Nutrition Security Strategy in which family farming is one of the fundamental pillars. As part of this strategy, the CPLP approved, in June 2017 in Brasilia, the «Guidelines for the support and promotion of Family Farming in CPLP member States».

In February 2018, at the High Level Meeting on Family Farming held in Lisbon, the Ministers of Agriculture of the countries involved, together with FAO and IFAD, undertook to implement in their countries the CPLP Guidelines on Family Farming, through signing of the «Lisbon Charte for strengthening family farming».

Portugal, along with other CPLP member countries, supported from the begining the declaration of the Decade of Family Farming, which we hope can make a decisive contribution to the recognition of these producers and which can create the right environment for their development on a global scale. Still at the level of CPLP activities, it is important to highlight the ongoing work on drafting and discussing the Guidelines for the promotion of sustainable nutrition and food systems at CPLP, to be approved as soon as possible.

Mr President and dear colleagues, the efforts and contributions made in favor of achieving the 2030 Agenda, global food security and the sustainability of the food systems of the future.

Muito obrigada.