

# Written Statement at the 44<sup>th</sup> Governors' Meeting of the IFAD

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While the COVID-19 pandemic keeps wrecking havoc and the world economy is mired in deep recession, the global cause of poverty reduction now faces dire challenges. Under such circumstances, as a UN agency specializing in poverty eradication, the International Fund for Agricultural Development(IFAD) should remain committed to its mandate, make the most of its comparative advantages, and seize the opportunity provided by the UN Food Systems Summit to more actively engage in fighting global challenges including rural poverty, food security and climate change, to help member countries eliminate hunger and poverty, and contribute more to global agricultural development and rural poverty alleviation. In this connection, I would like to offer three suggestions.

**First, uphold multilateralism and inclusiveness, and address global challenges with joint efforts.** Global challenges call for robust global responses. At the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations, IFAD should embark on a new journey that features unswerving support for the spirit of the UN Charter, commitment to multilateralism, and opposition to unilateralism and protectionism, so as to safeguard the development rights of all

developing member states. While enhancing South-South and Triangular Cooperation, IFAD should focus on North-South cooperation to promote circulation of agricultural development fund and exchange of experience, technology and trained personnel around the world, unite all member states to jointly respond to global challenges and achieve sustainable development in the post-pandemic era.

**Second, persist in a global positioning and the principle of universality to deepen cooperation with all member states.**

IFAD should continue to increase preferential funds to LICs and LMICs for food production, better nutrition for rural poor people and gradual rural poverty alleviation. Meanwhile, IFAD should continue its funding support for UMICs. Supporting LICs, LMICs and supporting UMICs is not a zero-sum game, instead, they are mutually beneficial. IFAD's funding cooperation with UMICs can not only help solidify UMICs' poverty reduction results, but also strengthen IFAD's financial sustainability, enrich its development experience and maintain a sound credit rating, hence better boost the development of LICs and LMICs.

**Third, expand financing channels, improve efficiency and build from strength to strength.** IFAD aims at doubling its influence by 2030, and the key lies in mobilizing more development resources. To this end, IFAD should seek more

funding mainly through replenishment, meanwhile, avail itself of the AA+ rating and proactively explore market borrowing so as to provide member states with more resources. At the same time, IFAD should further deepen institutional reform, improve internal capacity and effectiveness, and lay down a solid foundation for its development in the long run.

Ladies and gentlemen, eradicating poverty and hunger is a common aspiration of mankind and a primary goal of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. After eight years of unrelenting efforts, the Chinese government and the Chinese people have achieved poverty reduction as scheduled, and contributed to the acceleration of the global cause. For now and in the future, China will be committed to addressing unbalanced and insufficient development, solidifying what we have accomplished in poverty reduction through implementing the Rural Revitalization Strategy, and helping those who fall back into poverty or face newly emerged poverty issues. Due to large scale tax reductions and fee cuts and pandemic response expenditure, China is facing no small fiscal difficulty, yet, as a responsible major developing country, China, within our means, pledges to contribute \$85,000,000 to IFAD12. As a developing member, China is willing to share our experience in poverty alleviation and continue the mutually beneficial cooperation with IFAD to make new contribution to the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. Thank you!

(595 words)