

Written Statement at the 46th session of IFAD's Governing Council

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At present, with the combined impact of multiple crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitics and food security, the downward pressure on the global economy is increasing, and the global cause of poverty reduction has been set back. Under such circumstances, more than 2 billion people who depend on smallholder farms for food and income are facing greater challenges. As a UN specialized agency in poverty reduction with a focus on smallholder farmers, IFAD should play a greater role in global agricultural development and rural poverty reduction, so as to help the rural people especially smallholder farmers of Member States to address the food security crisis, and eliminate hunger and poverty. In this connection, I would like to offer three suggestions.

First, hold high the banner of multilateralism, and jointly meet global challenges. Global challenges require global responses. As a UN specialized agency, IFAD should unswervingly maintain the spirit of the UN Charter and carry out true multilateralism. While adhering to North-South cooperation as the main channel of development assistance, IFAD should also facilitate South-South and Triangular cooperation, unite all parties to respond to global challenges such as food security and climate change, and contribute to sustainable development in the post-epidemic era.

Second, grow bigger and smarter, and improve development performance. IFAD needs to mobilize more development resources and enhance institutional capacity to make a difference in promoting food security. This year marks the consultation on the thirteenth replenishment of IFAD's resources. IFAD should maintain replenishment as the bedrock, innovate its financing models, make substantive progress in market borrowing, and establish a sustainable financing mechanism. At the same time, IFAD should advance the ongoing reforms including decentralization 2.0, and strengthen its institutional capacity to lay down a solid foundation for its development in the long run.

Third, adopt a global-oriented approach, and deepen cooperation with all developing Member States. IFAD should keep on increasing its support to LICs and LMICs, while upholding the principle of universality and continuing to carry out all-round cooperation, including financial cooperation, with UMICs. This will enable IFAD to enrich its development practices, enhance financial sustainability and maintain a favourable credit rating, so as to ensure effective assistance to the poorest countries and the poorest rural people in the world.

Ending hunger and achieving food security are significant goals of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Over the past decade, China has successfully won the battle against extreme poverty, effectively ensured food security for 1.4 billion people, and made important contributions to global poverty reduction and food security. Going forward, China will continue to implement the rural revitalization strategy, consolidate the achievements in poverty reduction, and reinforce the foundation for food security. China is ready to strengthen cooperation with IFAD and provide support for other developing countries within its capacity. China welcomes

IFAD to participate in the Global Development Initiative, strengthen cooperation in international poverty reduction, food security and other areas, jointly build a global partnership for agricultural development, and work hand in hand with IFAD to make new contributions to the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the development of a community with a shared future for mankind!