

PORTUGAL

IFAD – Governing Council - Forty-sixth Session (Rome, 14-15 February 2023)

6. Establishment of the Consultation on the Thirteenth Replenishment of IFAD's Resources (GC 46/L.4) - Accelerating action for food security

Portugal is deeply concerned about the worsening of food security in result of well-known drivers, especially the COVID-19 pandemics effects, climate change and conflicts, amplified by the war in Ukraine.

2. As a member of the European Union, but also in other geometries in which Portugal take part, we are supporting the initiatives e measures needed for action, for tackling food insecurity especially for most vulnerable and fragile people that suffers the strong effect of the food insecurity on the rise.

3. In that context, we recently made a financial contribution to the Fund, recognizing the unique role that IFAD can do regarding the most fragile populations.

4. Nevertheless, the global action on food security should be guided by a vision on food systems transformation. Recognizing that if «no one size fits all», there is an absolute need for solutions that can assure the sustainable use of nature and its resources, the people living standards, especially the most vulnerable rural people, as well as the equity and inequality, «leaving no one behind» and considering the future generations. In this regard we take part, with our fellow countries of the Portuguese Speaking Countries Community (CPLP), in the Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition (ESAN), established in 2011.

5. Also in this regard, it should be highlighted the role that the follow-up of the UN Secretary General's Food Systems Summit can do to contribute for the development at the multilateral level of initiatives actions for the food systems transformation where needed, that can be multilaterally agreed and implemented according to national contexts and capacities. Again, the Portuguese Speaking Countries Community is supporting a «Coalition to promote territorial food systems governance», which main goal is to contribute to the strengthening of an international multi-level governance architecture to promote sustainable food systems.

6. We are certain that IFAD will fulfil its role considering the challenges ahead. To that end it is fundamental that IFAD can retain its multilateral nature as a member of United Nations system, where all members can take part in the decisions and actions to fulfil the organization's work, without excluding nobody, assuring regional representation and diversity, joining donors and recipients. Reinforcing multilateralism is part of the solution for tackling food insecurity, which applies also to financial institutions and obviously to IFAD and we are certain that all members will do their part to that end.