

Dear President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Mr. Alvaro Lario,

Hon. Dear Governors,

Ladies and gentlemen, Dear Guests,

Cooperation relations between Angola and IFAD date back to 1985.

Since 1990, IFAD has supported Angola by promoting increased public and private investment in agriculture and rural infrastructure development, aimed at combating poverty, hunger and increasing resilience among rural women.

IFAD-funded projects in Angola have had significant impacts on food and nutrition security, increased incomes of rural families and consequent rural transformation in Angola.

The extent of the effects of IFAD-funded projects in Angola is not only verifiable in increasing the resilience of production systems in the rural world, whether in the agricultural sector or in the fisheries sector.

Indeed, IFAD-supported initiatives have had an impact on the integration and empowerment of the most vulnerable social groups: vulnerable rural households, youth, women, the poor and disadvantaged such as people with disabilities, ex-military personnel and people living with HIV/AIDS.

In this context, the Government of Angola would like to take this opportunity to express its deep thanks for this rich and fruitful partnership, as well as for supporting national priorities for sustainable transformation.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Today we are living in a particularly challenging and unprecedented moment worldwide. Climate change and its negative effects on food production systems are already a reality, aggravated by the multiple situations of economic and social crisis with global impacts.

These are global challenges, and it is therefore essential to make efforts to increase the resilience of rural populations for a future with food security for all of us.

IFAD as an important partner for African Members and IFAD13's increasing focus on low-income countries and the African continent, with its commitment to investing in

sustainable agriculture, resilient food systems and climate action, is a catalyst for food system transformation and sustainable development on the continent.

In this context, the implementation of IFAD 13 in the pillars of biodiversity, resilience of smallholders and private sector involvement, is particularly highlighted.

In Angola, the private sector has been growing significantly and, in this sense, we would like to continue to count on IFAD's support in the process of building the capacity of this emerging sector that provides services that promote the increase in the productive capacity of smallholder farmers, aquaculture farmers and artisanal fishers, who are IFAD's main target audience.

The Government of Angola will continue to make efforts to ensure that the partnership with IFAD continues to produce desired results and that over the lifetime of IFAD13 we are able to increase the volume of resources needed to benefit more and more communities, with more impacts on the diversification of the economy, resilience to climate change, rural transformation, and poverty reduction.

In this context, technological innovation is crucial for the transformation of agri-food systems, helping to reduce human effort, increase production and productivity, make the most of resources, mitigate the negative impact on the environment and increase resilience. This is therefore an essential component in the initiatives to be developed under IFAD 13.

In summary, with the implementation of IFAD13 Angola expects to promote the greater and more qualified development of smallholder farmers, fishers and aquaculture farmers, the growing and continuous development of their value chains, and thus contribute to the eradication of poverty and national food security.

Ladies and gentlemen,

During the 4th IFAD13 Consultation, Member States demonstrated their support and reaffirmed IFAD's key role in revitalising the SDG 2030 Agenda through investment in rural populations.

48 Member States have pledged \$1.076 billion to replenish the Fund's core resources, marking a record level of funding achieved for IFAD's 2025-2027 work programme.

Angola announced in due course the maintenance of its contribution and the progressive increase in the coming years.

That is why I would like to call for a joint effort so that we can achieve the \$2 billion replenishment financing and ensure the implementation of the IFAD13 agenda.