

PSM Plenary Session – Other Matters

October 14, 2021, Rome

Robynne Anderson, Secretary General, Private Sector Mechanism

Good afternoon

On behalf of the 70 business leaders from 24 countries who have been part of the delegation of the Private Sector Mechanism, we would like to express our deep appreciation to Chairman Tiensin. Your affinity for food and agriculture is clear and has been a touchstone for CFS work over the last 2 years, in the face of a global pandemic. Without a doubt, your smiling, patient demeanor made these Zoom calls feel warm and collaborative and it has been a very prolific time for CFS despite the lack of in-person meetings. Thank you so much for your leadership, particularly in implementing CFS products, including your assistance with the recent training workshop on the VGFSyN in Asia.

My thanks also to the Secretariat whose efforts facilitate all the achievements of the Committee. You have developed many new measures to help us conduct our work in these complex times. It is also appreciated that Secretary Hegadorn and the team also helped keep CFS products and CFS in the discussion at the Food Systems Summit.

I would also like to extend a warm thanks to Martin Cole and HLPE, the Bureau, working group chairs, interpreters, and staff without whom none of the rest of this would be possible.

PSM is a diverse delegation that spans horticulture, cropping, fisheries to livestock, as well as food processors and financial institutions. We have been asked by the delegation to make it clear that the PSM supports this diversity of systems, including livestock and fisheries, as vital parts of the food system.

The multistakeholder approach is an asset and is being emulated. It is clear CFS will need to play a special role to scale up its efforts on hunger, malnutrition, and inclusion on multiple fronts.

Looking to the future. We thank both candidate Mongui and welcome the election of the incoming Chair Ferrero. Dating back to the High Level on Task Force on Food Security, your skills and experience will be invaluable at this time.

The food system and its transformation needs all our efforts.

Thank you.