PSM Plenary Session – iii. Forum on uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition (VGFSyN) 12 October, 2021, Rome

Ms Susan Kevork, Senior Public Affairs Manager-Nutrition, Health and Wellness—Nestlé

Good morning, my name is Susan Kevork, as Senior Public Affairs Manager focused on Nutrition, Health and Wellness for Nestlé and a member of the Private Sector Mechanism. As a result, I am thrilled to speak today on behalf of the Private Sector Mechanism, and specifically with respect to the uptake of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition.

Thanks to the contribution to this policy process by all CFS multistakeholder members, the VGFSyN can be considered more balanced than its starting point, recognizing a scientific and evidence basis for its recommendations, stronger policy coherence, as well as a clear recognition that all sectors and actors [*Including the Private Sector*] have an important role to play in achieving improved nutrition.

The need to work towards the improvement of the Food Systems and Nutrition has been made clear by the policy process leading to the guidelines, the Food Systems Summit, and we are pleased to see there is an important role for the CFS.

The PSM has turned to the uptake and implementation of these Voluntary Guidelines. In fact, our first in a series of three Outreach Sessions for Business was conducted last week and focused on Asia. Thanks to the

collaboration with the CFS Chair, and Ambassador Hoogeveen and interest from Business representatives, we were able to distill some insightful learnings on the potential for the uptake of VGFSyN within that region. The discussion was especially rich, thanks to the multisectoral exchange among Member States, academia, and private sector.

We count on the support of the CFS Chair and Secretariat on the upcoming two sessions planned for the Americas on the 4 November and Africa on the 24th of November.

Thank you Chair