



**Statement on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States**

**171<sup>st</sup> Session of the Council of the  
FAO (5-9 December 2022)**

**Item 6.2: Report of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on Agriculture (Rome, 18-22 July 2022)**

Madam/Mr Chair,

1. I am honoured to speak on behalf of the European Union and its 27 Member States.
2. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, San Marino, Türkiye and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.
3. We would like to thank Dr Bommakanti Rajender for his excellent leadership in chairing the 28th COAG session. We congratulate Ms Julie Emond as the new COAG chair.
4. The EU and its Member States appreciate FAO's work on the new Food Safety Strategy, reiterating the need for close alignment of that work with the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 and the work of the Codex Alimentarius. We would like to encourage all of us to remain actively engaged in improving national food safety policies and in promoting international food safety governance.
5. We welcome the initiative to develop a One Health Joint Plan of Action and look forward to contributing to its development and subsequent implementation. We reiterate the need for continued long-term and sustainable efforts for a strong One Health approach.
6. We reaffirm our appreciation for the First Session of the COAG's Sub-Committee on Livestock. The transition of the livestock sector to long-term sustainable and climate-friendly practices, including in terms of biodiversity, water and soil quality, is critically important to ensure the sector's contribution to sustainable food systems, food security, nutrition and healthy diets. We support in this spirit the development of the global assessment on the contribution of the livestock sector to the SDGs.
7. We note with appreciation the support for the need to implement the Codex Guidelines/Standards on Antimicrobial Resistance and for the development of guidelines on monitoring the use of antimicrobials at farm level with the World Organisation for Animal Health. We stress once again the importance of multi-actor participation in the Antimicrobial Resistance Multistakeholders Partnership Platform, including through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund, and encourage members to engage

actively in it.

8. We look forward to the finalisation of the report on the Future of Food and Agriculture – Drivers and triggers for transformation (FOFA-DTT). We support FAO’s commitment to this work in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. All actors need to contribute to the transition towards sustainable and resilient food systems, which is essential for combating climate change and biodiversity loss while ensuring food security and access to healthy and diversified diets for all. Broad cooperation is also necessary for ensuring sustainable use of the water resources that food systems depend on.
9. The EU and its Member States have greatly appreciated the COAG discussions on the many and complex relationships between agriculture and forestry, especially in the context of the transition towards sustainable food systems. We look forward to the global assessment of the status and scaling-up potential of agroforestry.
10. Finally, we encourage FAO to carry out further assessments to fill the global and regional knowledge gaps related to production, distribution, benefits, trade-offs, disposal, decomposition, recirculation and risks in agricultural plastics and their alternatives. We also encourage FAO to play an active role in the deliberations to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution.
11. With these remarks, the EU and its Member States endorse the Report of the 28<sup>th</sup> COAG session.

Thank you, Madam/ Mr Chair.

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