



**United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS)
Commitments to Action Statement: Dr. Kundhavi Kadiresan
September 23, 2021**

Excellencies, distinguished guests,

It is an honour to be invited to speak here today and to state CGIAR's commitment to the goals of the United Nations Food Systems Summit.

The Summit is a once in a lifetime opportunity to future-proof food systems, an opportunity to radically reset how we achieve our shared development goals.

The ambitions of the Summit are also at the core of CGIAR's new mission. CGIAR is the largest publicly funded global agricultural research and innovation organization. What CGIAR provides is the scientific evidence to guide the investments needed to transform our food, land and water systems.

To address the complex interconnected challenges of today's world, research and innovation is vital.

We don't do this in isolation.

To reach the widest scale we draw on rich partnerships and coordinated action across the private, public and civil society spheres. Our new research portfolio has a clear focus on impact. It will help to provide more stable, and desperately needed longer-term funding that delivers across economic, social, and environmental priorities.

Our commitment is firstly to make it clear that we stand ready to support Member States in the elaboration and implementation of their National and Regional Pathways for food systems transformation.

To better position us do exactly that, CGIAR is now undergoing an ambitious reform. It's this reform process that is the second part of our commitment.

Achieving a balance of meeting human needs without exhausting natural resources is only possible by treating food, land and water as a complex and interconnected system.

This complete shift to a sustainable food systems approach guides the new CGIAR research portfolio. The result is research that will focus on the regions and systems where we will be able to deliver the greatest impact.

Applied agricultural research provides the evidence for the best innovations to end global hunger and sustainably feed a projected 9.7 billion people by 2050. And this research and these innovations are the new CGIAR's driving force and our commitment to the sustainable transformation of global food, land and water systems in a climate crisis.

