Consultation on the Eleventh Replenishment of IFAD's resources: second session

List A, B and C Joint Statement

(Draft prepared by China)

(PS: This is the final version revised by List A and China on June 28).

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

China is making this general statement on behalf of List A, B, and C.

We thank Management for the efforts and hard work in preparation for the consultation documents. Considering the importance of this consultation session, we would like to make a joint statement across all lists on the following five areas.

First, it is our responsibility to make IFAD thrive and make it more relevant, stronger and more efficient. IFAD is a unique institution with its mandate highly aligned with the global commitment of "leaving no one behind" in realizing the SDGs. Since its establishment, IFAD has been the only United Nations specialized agency and international financial institution with a dedicated focus on rural poverty reduction. It plays an important role and has made great efforts in (i) addressing challenges of rural poverty, food insecurity and marginalization, and (ii) investing in rural people to enable them to overcome poverty and achieve food security through remunerative, sustainable and resilient livelihoods.

We, as Member States of IFAD, would like to express our firm support for President Houngbo in his efforts to promote reform and innovation to further improve IFAD's ability, visibility and capacity in delivering its support to the global rural poor.

Second, to potentially increase the program of work to help meet the demand from developing member states, while maintaining its priority focus on its poorest members, we support management's proposal to discuss ways to diversify IFAD`s financing sources on the basis of core contribution.

We believe, a broadened financial strategy could enable IFAD to further strengthen its capacity to continue its focus on rural poverty alleviation in a more sustainable way. We look forward to a thorough analysis to lay the groundwork based on which IFAD might engage in diversifying its resource base and financing terms and we will engage in constructive and transparent dialogues on these matters.

Third, We urge IFAD to establish partnerships with other IFIs, the RBAs and other UN agencies, consistent with each organizations`s comparative advantage, both at the institutional and country/field level. Moreover, South-South and Triangular Cooperation should continue to be used as a tool for promoting rural transformation and should be strengthened in IFAD's activities and programmes.

Fourth, we continue to call for IFAD to maintain its focus on inclusive rural transformation and strengthen its efforts on mainstreaming climate, nutrition, gender equality and the empowerment of women and youth as well as its rural development efforts in fragile contexts. In this regard, IFAD should leverage its comparative advantage and expertise to focus on the rural poor as 'entrepreneurs', focus on value chains, market access, including through the public-private-producer partnerships (4Ps) mechanism and other methods of engagement with the private sector and rural business development.

Last but not least, it is important to bear in mind that IFAD's resources should be delivered with the aim of maximum results and development effectiveness. We encourage IFAD to continue its efforts to facilitate evidence-based decision-making and improve its development results, while demonstrating its value for money. The resources we invest in IFAD, and the repayments that borrowers make are resources that cannot be used elsewhere. IFAD must ensure every dollar counts. IFAD is the "hope and future" for the people it serves. IFAD should maintain its focus on operational risks and we believe the decentralization process should strengthen IFAD's control environment with due attention to portfolio management quality. This is another key element of a successful financial strategy. Similarly, delegation of authority to country offices for selected tasks should be quality driven.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, please rest assured of our continuous support to IFAD to ensure the continuity of IFAD's contribution and efforts to achieve its laudable mandate as well as the 2030 agenda.

Not us, who?! Not now, when?!

Thank you.