

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

It is a pleasure to address this important gathering.

Unless we act now, hundreds of millions of children and adults will face poverty and hunger. Poor nutrition in childhood, adolescence and during pregnancy risk damage to personal health and development throughout the life course.

COVID-19 is also exacerbating food crises caused by conflict, severe climate events and pest infestations.

Just as climate change is threatening the stability of food systems, so do current patterns of food consumption and production drive climate change. The global food system contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, land degradation

