## Africa Dialogue Series: Webinar

## Strengthening the Resilience of Farming Systems: Land, Digital Transformation and Access to Finance Making Small Holder Farmers the Back Bones

Opening Remarks on behalf of Mr. QU Dongyu, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations by Ms Ismahane Elouafi, Chief Scientist, FAO

11 May 2022, 9:00 to 10:30 AM (EST)

1. It is an honor to provide the opening remarks,

- 7. And with this, we are losing our natural capital to desertification and deforestation, biodiversity is declining and, with it, the resilience of our agrifood systems.
- 8. In April, FAO organized its Regional Conference for Africa, hosted by Equatorial Guinea, where many Agriculture Ministers and other partners discussed how, together, we can strive to boost the resilience of small-holder farmers, who are the backbone of rural development.
- 9. In fact, this is a key component of the

15.