

STATEMENT BY:
H.E. AMB. DEE MAXWELL SAAH KEMAYAH, SR.
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
AND HEAD OF DELEGATION
DELIVERED AT THE PRE-SUMMIT OF THE 2021 FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT
HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (UN FAO)
ROME, ITALY
July 26-28, 2021

H. E. Luigi Di Maio, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Italian Republic

**H.E. Madam Amina J. Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General & Chair,
UN Food Systems Summit Advisory Committee**

**H.E. Amb. Omar Hilale, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of
Morocco & Representative of Africa on the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit
Advisory Committee**

**Dr. Agnes Kalibata, UN Secretary General Special Envoy for the UN Food
Systems Summit**

Excellencies, Ministers and Heads of delegation

- 1. Let me begin** by extending warm greetings on behalf of His Excellency Dr. George Manneh Weah, President of the Republic of Liberia and the Government and People of the Republic of Liberia; and express our profound gratitude to the host country, the Republic of Italy, for hosting this Pre-Summit. We note with satisfaction the warm reception accorded us since our arrival in the eternal City of Rome. Similarly, we

The PAPD also prioritizes the creation of innovative means to reduce food losses and waste; trigger resilient, sustainable and inclusive food systems that protect, enhance and restore our natural resources, sustain rural and urban livelihoods; provide access to nutritious foods; and promote sustainable consumption and production patterns.

7. **In this light**, following multi-stakeholder consultative engagements; our national food systems dialogues will be convened in the five agricultural regions of the country; ahead of the Summit in September. The dialogues will highlight among others; the following; which we believe have the potential to propel our drive towards transformation; and the achievement of the sustainable development goals:

i). Food value chain development:

This is in recognition of the implications for economic growth; social and environmental sustainability. This will include the design and implementation of policies to achieve sustainable production; climate change mitigation; enhance the governance of supply chains, technical assistance; and partnerships to advance sustainability.

ii). Ending youth unemployment through agriculture:

The Government of Liberia seeks to address youth unemployment

iv). Reducing child malnutrition through viable food systems:

To achieve this target, the Government seeks to undertake initiatives in line with its vision of improving the social protection system and nutrition security. This entails developing nutrition programs to reduce malnutrition among the most vulnerable; including among children. These undertakings will also enable the food system to augment production; the supply of nutritious food and ensuring better food safety standards.

8. In conclusion; Excellencies;

I wish to acknowledge the support of our partners; in these endeavors; including; the FAO, WFP; the Resident Coordinator and UN Country Team in Liberia;