

ADDRESS

BY

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ZIMBABWE, HIS EXCELLENCY
DR. E. D. MNANGAGWA**

Your Excellency Abdullah Shahid, President of the 76th Session of the General Assembly;

Majesties;

Excellencies, Heads of State and Government;

Your Excellency António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Let me commend the Secretary-General for convening this very important Food Systems Summit at a critical time when food supply chains have been disrupted by Climate Change and the COVID-19 pandemic. Population growth; changing consumption patterns; land degradation; biodiversity loss and, increased urbanisation, are straining the ability of supply chains to provide food sustainably. Those who are already vulnerable are the most affected.

Against this background, it is imperative that we develop more sustainable ways of producing, processing, accessing and utilising food.

Zimbabwe continues to implement a food systems approach that

aims to achieve safe and nutritious food and consumption patterns for all in its quest to meet the SDGs. To that end, my Government is implementing the Agricultural and Food Systems Transformation

on the nexus between food and the health of our planet, given that Climate Change is both a driver and a consequence of hunger. As such, concerted efforts must be made to enhance the resilience and sustainability of agricultural and food production systems.

The importance of exchanging experiences and best practices, including appropriate technologies, cannot be over-emphasised. Partnerships remain critical as we reach out and draw from the various competencies in our respective countries. All of us have a stake in food systems and must play a part towards ending hunger and malnutrition, as well as protecting the environment and enhancing equitable development.

I wish to call upon our partners to increase financial support and capacity building to the most vulnerable, targeting institutions and actors along the food systems value chain. With unity of purpose, we will truly build a fairer, better and more sustainable world which leaves no one behind.

I thank you.