

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
FOR THE 2021 FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT

14 June, 2021

Excellency,

On behalf of the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, I am delighted to update you on preparations for the global Pre-Summit of the Food Systems Summit, which will be held between 26-28 July, 2021 in Rome, Italy.

The Pre-Summit event will serve as the preparatory meeting for the Food Systems Summit in September by bringing together diverse actors from around the world to leverage the power of food systems to deliver progress on all 17 SDGs and our shared vision for people, planet, and prosperity. The Pre-Summit will consolidate all of the substantive work of the Summit into a common vision and set a tone of bold ambition and commitment to action. The Pre-Summit will deliver the latest evidence base and scientific approaches from around the world; strengthen coalitions of action; and mobilize new financing and partnerships.

The Pre-Summit will take a hybrid format, with a small in-person component complemented by a vast virtual program and platform. It will involve thousands of youth, food producers, Indigenous Peoples, civil society, researchers, private sector, policy leaders, the UN system, and Ministers of agriculture, environment, health, nutrition, and finance to collectively raise political ambition and work on transformative changes in our food systems to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

We look forward to the leadership of your Government in this Pre-Summit and at the Food Systems Summit in September. We are working very closely with Italian authorities, and all Member States are welcome to attend the Pre-Summit in person in Rome or virtually. In this regard, we invite you to nominate a Minister and delegation to lead your government's engagement in the Pre-Summit in accordance with the attached guidance note. We ask that you please send the name and contact details of the delegates to the Secretariat (FoodSystemsSummit@un.org) as soon as possible, but ideally no later than Friday, 2 July, 2021 to enable logistical and health planning.

A Member State guidance note and high-level Pre-Summit concept and agenda are attached for your reference. More details on the program, logistics and health protocols will follow in the latter half of June.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Agnes Kalibata
Special Envoy of the Secretary-General
for the 2021 Food Systems Summit

All Permanent Representatives of Member States
to the United Nations
New York