

FSS Coalition Meeting

August 3, 2021



Agenda

- Welcome
- Coalition Member Engagement
- FSS Recent Happenings
- Coalition Level Set/Next Steps

Coalition Membership: 44 Members

Agricultural Retailers Association
Alltech
American Farm Bureau Federation
American Feed Industry Association
American Frozen Food Institute
American Seed Trade Association
Animal Agriculture Alliance
Animal Health Institute
Association of Equipment Manufacturers
BASF
Bayer
Biotechnology Innovation Organization
Corn Refiners Association
Corteva Agriscience
CropLife America
Elanco Animal Health
Farm Credit Council
FMI-The Food Industry Association
International Dairy Foods Association
Institute of Shortening and Edible Oils
KCoE Isom, LLP
Merck Animal Health
National Association of State Departments of Agriculture

National Association of Wheat Growers
National Confectioners Association
National Corn Growers Association
National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
National Milk Producers Federation
North American Meat Institute
Nutrien
Pet Food Institute
SNAC International
Solutions from the Land
Sugar Association
Syngenta
The Fertilizer Institute
US Agriculture Export Development Council
U.S. Dairy Export Council
U.S. Farm Credit Council
U.S. Grains Council
U.S. Meat Export Federation
U.S. Poultry and Egg Association
U.S. Soybean Export Council
Zoetis

FSS Pre-Summit

The Pre-Summit was attended by more than 500 delegates from 108 countries in person, including 62 ministers, and an additional 17,000 virtual delegates from 190 countries.

Key Speakers:

- U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres' video statement stressing that the global food system is part of a “war against nature,” prompting significant emissions of greenhouse gases and loss of biodiversity.
- Deputy Secretary General Amina J. Mohammed called for robust and transformational change to the food system.
- Dr. Agnes Kalibata, UN Secretary General's Special Envoy spoke throughout the event, calling attention to the many ideas that have been shared throughout the Summit process, need to focus on food cost, and those living outside the ability to afford a healthy diet.
- Dr. David Nabarro, Senior Advisor, Food Systems Summit Dialogues and Dr. Martin Frick, Deputy to the Special Envoy for UNFSS served as moderators throughout the sessions and shared critical synthesis on the ministerial statements and Coalitions of Action at the closing of the Pre-Summit.

FSS Controversy:

- The heads of the World Health Organization Director and UNICEF released a parallel joint statement that, stressed that food systems are “broken,” with steps needed to “practices used to grow, distribute, market consume and dispose” of food and references to the need for steps to halt “aggressive” marketing and the need for taxes “to increase the price of unhealthy [food] options.”
- CSM hosted a counter summit- “People’s Counter- Mobilization to Transform Corporate Food Systems” aiming to protest that the Summit “is disproportionately influenced by corporate actors, and lacks transparency and accountability mechanisms.”

Pre-Summit Overview

Top Takeaways

- 7 Coalitions of Action announced - with discussion of future governance and implementation mechanism
- Huge information gaps on important elements - development process coalitions of action, SG statement, definitions/lack of consensus on certain issues such as true cost
- USG positions broadly aligned with Coalition but additional work is needed on proactive positions, pushing back on problematic language, and alliance building
- Some ground to build on with other country positions but not a lot of strong positions, particularly on areas of concern

Pre-Summit Key Themes

- **Hunger:** Priority that was widely embraced by member states - first Coalition of Action announced was Zero Hunger
- **Innovation, Technology, Science/Research:** Innovation mentioned as a priority across the entire food change, ministerial statements noted the importance of data collection and sharing country to country, US among countries to support AIM for Climate initiative
- **True Cost (or Value) of Food:** True cost (or value) of food continues to be a hot topic of conversation, still is not clearly defined
- **Inclusivity:** Emphasis was placed on ensuring that women, youth and indigenous people be included in the discussions for the path forward, as well as ensuring the private sector, farmers and producers are at the center of all solutions
- **Regional Flexibility:** Member states were encouraged to focus on future “food systems pathways” or ways they can holistically implement FSS goals and commitments into their national policies

Pre-Summit Coalitions of Action

7 Coalitions of Action were launched at the Closing Session of the Pre-Summit:

- Food Loss and Waste (**USG**, Brazil, Indonesia, Italy)
- School Feeding (**USG**, Denmark, France, Iceland, Nigeria, Kenya, Luxembourg)
- Agroecology & Sustainable Livestock (Senegal, Switzerland, France?)
- Zero Hunger (Philippines, Norway, Ethiopia, Canada, Pakistan, Nigeria)
- Aquatic and Blue Foods (Palau)
- Living Income and Wages in Food Systems (Antigua)
- Resilience (Bangladesh)

Finance, and implementation was noted as being an important component across off of these

Pre-Summit USG Positions

- US Delegation was led by Deputy Secretary Broun
 - Participated in multiple panels and ministerial round tables
 - Presented 7 minute ministerial statement outlining USG's positions
- USAID Administrator Samantha Power spoke on food security and resilience during a panel discussion
- USG's remarks were broadly in support of the Food Loss and Waste (Food is Never a Waste) Coalition, AIM for Climate and School Feeding Coalition
 - The US also supported: science-based, data-driven, innovative, producer-led solutions; free markets and trade important to bolster food security and sustainable food systems; and the topic of inclusion (women, youth, and indigenous people).
- USG positions broadly aligned with the Coalition but additional work is needed on proactive positions, pushing back on problematic language, and alliance building
- Deputy Secretary press briefing:
 - USDA to focus on Global School Meals Coalition, AIM for Climate and Food is Never Waste Coalition
 - Working hard to create a Coalition on Innovation
 - Surprised to hear others are against innovation- had not seen detractors
 - Positive conversation with EU Commissioner and explained differences

Pre-Summit Country Positions

110 ministerial statements were delivered over the course of the pre-summit, in which ministers and representatives shared their country's priorities and strategies. Ministers and country representatives also gave remarks during 4 ministerial roundtables.

- US Allies, including Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico all highlighted innovation as a priority.
- Argentina had a particularly strong statement, emphasizing no one size fits all, radical reform is not necessary in many cases, and that agriculture and livestock are part of the solution.
- Brazil called for free trade and recognition of local circumstances.
- Mexico highlighted their support for agroecology principles.
- Canada focused on inclusivity and ensuring nutritious, culturally diverse diets.
- New Zealand proposed a Coalition to measure global emissions from agriculture, promoted free and fair trade, and called for transformation.
- Philippines particularly focus on research and innovation

Based on their ministerial statements and roundtable contributions, other countries that seemed to be aligned with the USG position's (particularly around innovation) include: Japan, UAE, Afghanistan, Argentina, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan.

Pre-Summit Private Sector, PSM, Producer Groups

Private Sector Guiding Group (WBCSD)

- The President and CEO of WBCSD, Peter Bakker, provided remarks at multiple sessions - emphasized the importance of accounting for true cost or value of food, support for an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for food, growing momentum in the private sector towards living wages, and that business should be drivers of transparency in the food value chain
- WBCSD also shared the following as private sector coalitions of focus: True value of food, 100% living income, Sustainably producing high quality proteins for all, Fortified foods, Digital innovations and solutions, Soil Health

Producer Group

- Provided positions during the session entitled: “The Voice of Farmers, Fishers, Pastoralists and other Producers toward the Food Systems of the Future”
 - Emphasized farmers, fishers, and other producers must be central to discussions and implementation of food system solutions. They should be viewed as the solution, not the problem
 - Policy and trade environments must provide long-term stability to farmers, as well as the importance of innovation, technology, and education for farmers
 - Heavy focus on small scale, “family farms”

USFRA

- Emphasis on people-based solutions and the importance of recognizing farmers as leader
- Farmers need: 1) integration - of livestock and crop systems 2) innovation - especially to combat climate change, and 3) investment

Pre-Summit Watch Outs

Coalitions of Actions

Positives:

- Several potentially positive coalitions announced (School feeding, food loss/waste)

Challenges:

- Concern around an emerging Coalition of Action linking Agroecology & Sustainable Livestock
- Limited clarity on what exactly constitutes a Coalition of Action, leadership, engagement, participant expectations, etc.
- No Coalition of Action on trade, no clear role for trade in current Coalitions of Action

Themes & Terminology

Positives:

- Several countries mentioned the need for flexibility on a regional level and that there is no “one size fits all approach”
- Need for free/fair trade, science-based research, innovation and technology emphasized throughout discussions and statements
- Producers were noted as as one of the most important voices to be reflected in these discussions
- Many countries highlighted the importance of partnerships and engaging all stakeholders in the discussion and implementation

Challenges:

- Strong and well-orchestrated support for themes around the true cost of food (recalibrated food system finance), and agroecology.
- Repeated emphasis on policies that target/denigrate specific foods/nutrients (taxes, labels, classification by processing)
- Continued unchallenged assumptions that the food system is broken, no acknowledgment of significant achievements

Pre-Summit Watch Outs

Private Sector Guiding Group (WBCSD led) Business Pledge:

Challenges:

- The business declaration utilizing undefined terms of “true value” of food and “just transition” though in reference to employment opportunities. Public pressure increasing to sign the pledge

Governance/follow-up

Challenges:

- Several options discussed -, including creating a new secretariat comprising the Rome-based agencies and/or to create an "IPCC for food"
- Many questions were raised about the FSS' relationship with the CFS - CFS has some clear challenges, but it is at least an existing group that has successfully reached consensus among member states
- Unclear on the future role of CFS in FSS Follow up, and how follow up mechanisms will be funded and staffed

SG's Statement/Annexes

Challenge:

- There was little discussion on the future of the Secretary General's statement at the September meeting, with the exception that it is still being drafted. There continue to be concerns with approaches and language reflected in the draft outline

Pre-Summit Questions Remain

Coalitions of Action

- How will Coalitions be developed and pushed forward?
- What is entailed in establishing the coalition's objective, format, and garnering support? What are the next steps on the Coalitions and development?
- Who are the USG leads for each Coalition the U.S. is joining? How do the coalitions fit into the UN's organization/governance approach?
- What is the future for the Coalition of Action linking Agroecology & Sustainable Livestock?

SG's Statement/Annexes

- What is the status of the SG's statement and further drafting efforts?
- What is the status of the solution clusters? Will they continue to be developed into annexes?
- How is the United States actively engaging with like minded countries and in the process to shape the SG's statement, which will be a prominent summary of the FSS' outcomes and future work?

September Summit

- When is the Summit, who will be there, what are the details?

Governance/follow-up

- There was a lot of discussion on post-FSS governance and follow-up, and a lot to be considered with the various options, the recurring theme being “ownership” by the UN Rome Agencies.
- What is the expectation for follow up mechanisms from the FSS?
- What will be the role of CFS?

FSS Mechanism Next Steps

A focus on launching Coalitions of Action

- After the Pre-Summit FSS work will focus on implementing the Coalitions of Action, with the goal to build support for those announced and unveil additional coalitions.

Secretary General statements

- Work will continue on the Secretary General's statement for the September that will be packaged together with an appendix of solutions ("solution clusters").

Follow-up mechanisms

- The UN Deputy Secretary General indicated future work in follow up and driving FSS outcomes will be led by the Rome based UN Agencies (FAO, WFP, IFAD) with help from UN country leads and the heads of the Coalitions of Action.

September Summit Date- Still unconfirmed, but 7 weeks from Pre-Summit (Week of September 13th, UNGA)

FSS Roadmap

Source: Dr.
Agnes Kalibata



June

July

August

September

October and Beyond

Review & Modeling (Science)

AC

HLPF

Pre-Summit

AC

Summit

AC

Strengthening Propositions for a
Solutions Repository (ATs)

Refinement of Statement of Action and Annex (All actors
complete their contributions to the Annex)

Advance Priority Coalitions towards
Areas of Convergence (ATs)

Building Coalitions (coalition teams) & Firming up
Commitments and Actions (All actors)

Post-Summit Implementation
& Follow-up (All actors)

Articulating national pathways
(FSSDs)

Strengthening National Pathways
(Member States with partners)

UNFCC COP26

CBD COP15

RBA / CFS

G20

N4G

Synthesizing Global and
Independent Dialogue Inputs
(FSSDs)

Comms & Advocacy

Synthesizing inputs and ideas
(youth, producers, IPs, PS, CS)

Pre-Summit Results:

- 5 Coalitions Launched or Scaled (15-20 Coalitions Strengthened)
- ~5 HoS, 5 Eminent Persons, 1 commitment each constituency
- Increased alignment around follow up

Summit Results:

- SG Statement of Action
- ~15-20 Coalitions Launched or Scaled
- ~50 HoS, 20 Eminent Persons w/commitments
- 1000+ commitments and actions
- Clarity on follow up

Communicating broadly and
activating action throughout

Accelerating Action for the 2030 Agenda

(Work-in-Progress)

Focus of SG's Statement and Call to Action

Source: Dr. Agnes Kalibata

- **Re-affirm the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
- **Underscore the urgency to act in light of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the centrality of food systems**
- **Need to stay within Planetary Boundaries**
- **Imperative to realize basic Human Rights**
- **Emphasize the urgency of moving beyond incremental action and the importance of a systems approach**
- **Highlight the need to realize the true cost of food**

Secretary General's Statement of Action – Emerging Areas of Convergence

End Hunger and Nourish All People	Wellbeing and Responsible Consumption	Climate, Biodiversity, & Planetary Boundaries	Livelihoods and Empowered Communities	Resilience	Knowledge and Innovation
Zero Hunger Zero Malnutrition in all its forms Available and affordable nutrition for everyone Food Safety	One health approach Food loss and food waste Obesity NCDs	1.5 degrees; Net zero GHG emissions; Net zero biodiversity loss; Net zero terrestrial ecosystem loss; water; oceans; energy;	End extreme poverty; job creation; full empl. and decent work for all; SME growth; human rights; double ag prod; Access and opps to productive resources access to knowledge	resilient cities and settlements; resilience to climate; Value chains resilient to economic, climate, conflict, and pandemic shocks	Basing food systems decision-making on the best available science Access to knowledge and data; Access to a universal body of indigenous, traditional, and scientific knowledge

Coalition Level Set

Level Set Coalition Progress

- Messaging/Communications
- USG Outreach
- International
- FSS Mechanism

Coalition Strategy Recap

1. Align on principles and elevate messages and engage highest levels of US government
2. Arm USG with information they need to engage
3. Create support internationally
4. Plan for negative outcome or response

In the end, we want to see [best case]:

- USG puts forward positive ideas and game changers, including at least some that are specifically aligned with Coalition “must haves” (e.g., AIM for Climate) and uses all available opportunities to emphasize/promote those ideas
- USG negotiates within UN system and with other member states to identify and push back on “must avoids,” at least some of which are aligned with Coalition “must avoids”
- Any formal outcomes (statement, principles, list of recommended ideas, reporting mechanisms, approval of future UN/UN agency workstreams) coming out of FSS are at least balanced
- Member States push for more oversight in the process, and agree upon any follow up mechanisms for outcomes

Potential Next Steps

Better understanding/information gathering

- Targeted questions to USG and renewed mtgs w/Dep Sec to push for analysis of ministerial and concrete action on next steps for UN and USG (transition to USUN, “negotiation” of SG statement, U.S. participation/leadership in coalitions)
- Understand the details and process by which USG is engaging in the development of the Coalitions of Action
- Similar questions/concerns to be adapted for other governments/stakeholders

Push for the good

- Build up and push U.S. to advance Coalition of Action on Innovation and/or AIM for Climate

Mitigate the problematic

- Assess agroecology/livestock coalition
- Problematic concepts(e.g., “true cost of food”, “unhealthy food”) to be removed from SG statement
- Highlight potential concerns with Private Sector Business Pledge among those that have or may align

Innovation Coalition

USDA and USAID have expressed interest in our Coalition working with USG to develop an Innovation Coalition.

A multi-disciplinary approach bringing together governments, agriculture and food stakeholders, research and extension service experts, and non-governmental organizations can accurately assess current practices, set ambitious targets, measure changes, verify progress, and achieve the sustainable food systems the world relies on.

The Coalition of Action on Innovation is committed to:

- Learning from and building on proven agricultural practices for efficient production.
- Embracing innovation in all foods and production systems seeking to optimize their environmental and health impacts.
- Promoting and investing in scientific research and technological advancements that increase food security while protecting natural resources.
- Collaborating openly and transparently across policy, research, business, and civil society spaces, oriented toward finding, implementing, and scaling evidence-based, real-world solutions.

Who is involved

- Governments: United States, Brazil, Argentina, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Ireland, Vietnam?, Philippines, UAE + other AIMC supporters
- International organizations: FAO LEAP, IICA
- Academic/research partners: Virginia Tech University Global Agricultural Productivity initiative, UC Davis World Food Center and CLEAR Center,
- Private sector partners: Signatories of letter to Secretaries Vilsack and Blinken + international counterparts
- NGO partners?

How it will work

- To further develop and advance food systems that are diverse and nutritious, sustainable, and lead boldly for the future, the Coalition of Action on Innovation will assess best practices and support research & development to further implement and scale

Communication

Communication Tools

- **Coalition Website Access**

- The Coalition has a website where you can access materials and documents. View the website here. <https://www.betterseed.org/un-food-systems-coalition/>
- **PASSWORD: UNFSSCoalition2021!!**
- Working documents will continue to be circulated via email attachments
- A big thank you to the ASTA team for the time and resources to get this running

- **Zoom** will be used for Steering Committee and Coalition Meetings being run by Food Directions