

**Statement by H. E. Mr. J. Enkhsaikhan, Head of the Mongolian delegation  
at the World Summit on Food Security**

17 November, 2009

Rome, Italy

Mr. Director-General,  
Mr. President,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of Mongolia, I would like to express our gratitude to the organizers of this summit, the FAO and the Host country for the excellent arrangements and organization of this important event.

Like previous speakers, I would like to express my Government's full support of the Declaration on food security, a consensus document reflecting the agreed five Rome principles for sustainable global food security that include concrete commitments as well as specific actions.

As underlined in this declaration, we are alarmed that the number of people suffering from hunger and poverty now exceeds 1 billion (or every sixth person on the planet), and that while progress was made in addressing the challenges of food security, the results so far have fallen short of achieving Goal 1 of the Millennium Development Goals and the commitments of World Food Summits.

Food insecurity is exacerbated by the climate change, global warming and desertification. Climate change threatens food security. It is to be hoped that the forthcoming Copenhagen summit will adequately address this issue and thus contribute to the goals set forth in the declaration.

The Government of Mongolia supports the principles of the joint statement and food security initiative in Aquila and calls for full implementation of the Global Partnership for Agriculture and Food Security. Likewise, we support the five key principles for a comprehensive and coordinated approach to end global hunger adopted at the Partnering for Food Security event recently co-hosted by United States and the United Nations in New York.

Mr. President,

The Government of Mongolia has adopted a National Program for Food Security (NPFS). It was elaborated with the technical assistance of the FAO, broad participation of government agencies and intensive consultations with the stakeholders, including the private sector.

NPFS is a concrete, time-bound program with an overarching goal to provide the entire nation with secure supplies of accessible, nutritious and safe food. It has four basic pillars:

***Pillar 1: Enhancing the Enabling Environment*** by identifying and promoting policies and institutions that are critical for empowering food producers, other food chain operators and consumers as well as for providing safety nets for the poor and the vulnerable.

***Pillar 2: Commercial and Household Food Security.*** It addresses such issues as commercial agriculture to increase national food production and generate incremental incomes in rural areas, support food insecure households, intensifying and diversifying their agricultural production and assuring access to adequate and affordable food, especially in urban areas.

***Pillar 3: Restructuring Food Safety.*** It is aimed to modernize and expand food processing and transform food control management system into a modern, pro-active and cost-efficient structure.

***Pillar 4: Promoting Nutrition and Public Health.*** This pillar focuses specifically on children and other vulnerable groups.

This program is expected to be implemented with investments from the private sector, government and local governments, development partners and NGOs.

Mr. President,

Mongolia has a strong tradition of semi-nomadic, extensive, pastureland livestock production as its main economic activity. Today Mongolia has around 50 million heads of livestock, a vast territory and two enormous emerging markets of China and Russia. However, 93.8 percent of consumed meat and 98.3 percent of milk are not industrially processed. We believe that if these resources are duly processed, utilized fully and wisely, the country can provide not only its own population with healthy, safe, organic food but it can also contribute to the broader goals of promoting global food security. Speaking of our potential contribution to global food security, mention needs to be made of the joint development of a Master Plan of Agricultural Development on 270 thousand hectares of land in the far eastern Khalkhyn Gol river basin area with the Republic of Korea. We believe that with right management, technology and support this area could be turned into an important agro-processing area of the North East Asian sub-region.

In conclusion I would like to reiterate my Government's pledge to actively participate in implementation of the summit declaration and would encourage others to do the same.

Thank you for your attention.