

Thank you, Chairman, dear colleagues,

On behalf of the Netherlands Delegation, it is a great honor to address you on the important theme of building a fair and sustainable global economy.

The Netherlands is famous for its agricultural production (tulips, milk, cheese) I live in Andijk, which is in the middle of Seed Valley. Over 50% of world's vegetable seeds is produced there. In the Netherlands in 1925 lived 7,3 million people nowadays almost 18 million. The world population is growing. Climate change affects the most vulnerable, but so does hunger.

I was inspired by 2 workshops in this Assembly. "Breaking the Hunger Cycle" and "Reducing methane for climate". I thought: "which one is more important?" However, the relationship between achieving "enough food" and "climate goals" is not just a matter of priorities but one of simultaneous achievement.

The aim is to achieve sustainable development by minimizing negative environmental impact and ensure the world population can be fed.

Methane is a greenhouse gas, stronger than carbon dioxide. Nearly half of global methane emissions come from agricultural activities. Livestock and rice farming contribute to methane emissions. Since global food demand is rising those emissions tend to rise.

We need to adopt an integral approach to climate measures, such as changes to housing, feed, or genetics, to prevent negative effects on food production.

This includes "win-win" measures that simultaneously contribute to our climate and improve food security. For example enhancing cow health to extend their lifespan, which reduces the carbon footprint and improves the quality.

The goal is not to choose but to work on food and climate at the same time. This includes technical solutions and economies of scale and will only work with a level playing field. We need your commitment on both goals to ensure that progress in only one field does not come at the expense of the most vulnerable. So help us to help them.

Thank you.