Statement Resumed High-Level Segment for Heads of States and Heads of Governments
UNFCCC Farmers Constituency

Thank you, Mr President. My name is Elizabeth Nsimadala, proudly representing farmers from East Africa and speaking on behalf of the Farmers Constituency.

Across the world, farmers are facing increasingly severe droughts, floods and heatwaves. With El Niño approaching, the pressure on agriculture and global food security is set to intensify. This makes it all the more urgent to close the adaptation finance gap and scale up means of implementation, including finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, so that farmers have the resources to adapt and act on the ground. Safeguarding food security must be at the heart of these efforts.

Against this backdrop, the absence of a meaningful outcome under the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Agriculture and Food Security is particularly disappointing. We cannot afford to lose momentum on agriculture at a time when climate impacts on food production around the world are becoming increasingly severe.

It is therefore crucial that the Presidency-led decision explicitly recognises farmers as essential actors in delivering climate action among the other stakeholders, while reaffirming the fundamental priority of safeguarding food security. Both are already recognised in the Paris Agreement and the Global Stocktake and must remain visible in the political direction set by this COP, especially here in Antalya, at the heart of one of Türkiye's major agricultural regions.

Agriculture must not be confined to a single workstream. Its role and potential should be reflected across relevant UNFCCC processes, including adaptation, just transition, mitigation, technology, and the Action Agenda.

Farmers are on the frontlines of climate change and must be at the forefront of its implementation. They can only do this with recognition, resources, and political commitment.

Thank you.