

Thank you chair,

At the outset, I would like to express my appreciation to the international organizations involved in the preparation of SOFI 2026.

Japan strongly agrees with the report's finding that improving food security and nutrition requires not only ensuring the availability of food but also securing economic access to healthy diets.

From this perspective, Japan has been providing tailored support based on the specific circumstances and needs of partner countries, including efforts to strengthen food value chains, reduce post-harvest losses, and improve distribution and logistics systems. These efforts contribute to improving the availability and affordability of healthy foods in Asia and Africa, while also supporting the development of sustainable agrifood systems.

As report points out, productivity growth, agricultural research and development, improved logistics infrastructure, trade facilitation, and more efficient value chains are key drivers in lowering the cost of healthy diets. Japan firmly believes that productivity and sustainability are not a trade-off. Through innovation, it is possible to achieve both. (We also underscore that stronger collaboration among governments, the private sector, research institutions and other stakeholders is essential to scale up and implement these technologies and knowledge in practice.)

Furthermore, a transparent and predictable trading system is an important pillar of food security. Enhancing market transparency is also essential for maintaining stable food markets and enabling informed policy decisions. From this perspective, the AMIS plays a critical role, and Japan believes that continued efforts should be made to maintain and further strengthen its functions.

At the same time, reducing the cost of healthy diets should not be pursued as an objective in isolation. As the report points out, it is essential to strike an appropriate balance with farmers' livelihoods, environmental sustainability, and the resilience of rural communities. Efforts to make healthy diets more affordable should not come at the expense of the economic viability of agricultural producers.

In Japan, under the revised Basic Act on Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas, we are promoting the consolidation and efficient use of farmland, the wider adoption of smart agriculture, the strengthening of agricultural production infrastructure, and the reduction of food loss and waste. Through these efforts, we seek to achieve both higher productivity and greater sustainability in the agriculture and food sectors.

Finally, Japan looks forward to CFS further strengthening its role as an inclusive multi-stakeholder platform. Building on the findings of SOFI 2026, we will continue working with FAO and other partners to promote resilient and sustainable agrifood systems and improve access to healthy diets for all.

Thank you, chair.

