Dear the CFS-HLPE,

On behalf of the Thailand, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperative, I would like to thank the CFS-HLPE for giving me the opportunity to comment on the zero draft. Please find below my comments on the V₀ draft.

The current report contains many issues/case studies that achieving a balance between the agricultural sector and the livestock sector. However, agriculture is highly diversified and specialized. Different areas would have their individual sustainability challenges. In order to achieve the individual improvement on the agricultural sector for FSN, the following aspects should be more considered/defined:

- the best practice that is aimed to specific requirements,
- the existing model, particularly the potential practice, that have been developed in the regional circumstances,
- agriculture systems successfully applied by the private industries
- losses from production, especially for small farmers

I would like to encourage the working team to review the new concept on sustainable agriculture called “Philosophy of Sufficiency Economy”. This is the His Majesty’s philosophy that has been implemented in Thailand. This agricultural concept aims to promote self-reliant or sustainable farming under the limitation of the existing income or resources. The small farmers could effectively decrease the dependence and increase the ability to control the production themselves.

The impacts of climate change are relatively brief in this report. In Thailand, most farmers are small landholders in rainfed areas. The agricultural sector is most vulnerable to climate change impact. The shift in land use from annual to perennial crops was due to changes in the climate and market conditions. Accordingly, climate change seriously threatens overall food security of the country. The approach useful for this challenge should be considered more.

According to the Free Trade Agreement and ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) within the year 2015, Thailand which is an Agro-industry country expects drastically increasing number of workers from neighbouring countries. This mass relocation will most likely elevate the risks of malnutrition and emerging diseases. Since the current proposed systems do not well succeed at capturing this aspect, it would be of interest to analyze the sustainable development pathway for this specific challenge.

The following aspects are suggested to be greater captured in the report;

- effects of using chemical/pesticides/antibiotic in agriculture/ livestock on sustainability and FSN
- impacts of logistic management/post harvesting system on sustainability and FSN
- production system that reduce production cost, and increase communities value in food and energy production
- use of local knowledge, appropriated technology that is economically viable and socially acceptable to produce high value agricultural products
- use of cooperatives to enhance fairness and sustainability for small farmers
- application of zero waste principles to utilize farm residuals and by-products
- policy on bio-energy, green energy
- new approaches to increase food supplies while protecting the available resources and reduce the inputs such as use of genetic plants and animals
- agroforestry system that help preserve land quality
- sustainability and FSN of halal food
- organic farming
- animal emerging diseases
- insects for food and feed.

Hopefully, these suggestions will be useful for revising the next version.

Yours sincerely,

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