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PRESS RELEASE ON THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO ITALY DAY -2

The Right Honourable Prime Minister Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' addressed, in the capacity of the Chair of LDC Group, the Official Opening of the United Nations Food Systems Summit + 2 Stock Taking Moment, being held at the Headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organizations in Rome, Italy, this afternoon.

Addressing the session, the Rt. Honourable Prime Minister said that the LDCs continue to be the hotspots of acute food insecurity and the agri-food systems operate under a perpetual cloud of risk and uncertainty. While underscoring the need for a collective commitment to giving hope to the people living in the LDCs, the Prime Minister called for scaled-up investment in transforming our food systems, means to adapt to climate change, and the resources to help build the resilience of the LDCs. The official opening was addressed by the Prime Minister of Italy, the UN Secretary-General and other Heads of State and Government.

The Right Honourable Prime Minister spoke in the Plenary Session on School Meals Powering Food System Transformation earlier today. Speaking in the Session, the Prime Minister said transforming food systems is crucial not only for food security but also for the full realization of all sustainable development goals and accelerating human development. Expressing that school meals programs played important role in promoting students' health, academic performance, and overall well-being, he highlighted the efforts being made by the government of Nepal in ensuring healthy meals for all school children. He shared with the international community that Nepal's experience with school feeding is a success story. Heads of State and Government, ministers, and other key stakeholders working in this area participated in the program.

The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, today, hold a bilateral meeting with the Secretary General of the United Nations His Excellency Antonio Guterres on the sidelines of the UNFSS+2. During the meeting, they discussed matters related to the continued partnership between Nepal and the UN System, Nepal's contribution to the UN peace efforts, multilateralism, and issues of global importance.

Likewise, the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister had separate meeting with the Executive Director of WFP, H.E. Ms. Cindy H. McCain. The matters related to agricultural development, food security, access to safe and nutritious food, and poverty reduction and the overall status and effectiveness of the projects run in Nepal with the support of WFP were discussed.

The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister also had a bilateral meeting with Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh in the evening. During the meeting, the two Prime Ministers

discussed matters related to friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries as well as matters related to regional cooperation.

Later this evening, the Prime Minister is attending the reception hosted by the Director General of FAO.

The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister was accompanied by Ms. Ganga Dahal, the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Development, the Honourable Member of the National Planning Commission, the Foreign Secretary, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the UN Offices in Vienna, and other members of the delegation in those sessions and meeting.

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Vienna

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