STATEMENT

BY

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FIRST SECRETARY

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AGENDA ITEM 25

“AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT, FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION”

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Mr. Chairman,

On behalf of my delegation, I wish to thank the Secretary General for his report and note under this agenda item. Jordan associates itself with the statement delivered by Fiji on behalf of the G77 and China.

The significance of the agricultural sector in bringing about economic growth and sustainable development cannot be understated. Growth originating in agriculture can be more effective at reducing poverty than growth arising from other economic sectors. Furthermore, it has offered an effective leverage point to alleviate poverty, hunger and malnutrition worldwide.

Even though substantial progress has been made in reducing extreme poverty, the concerns of hunger and malnutrition continue to persist. While the 2015 MDG hunger goal remains within reach, progress is not even and many countries are unlikely to meet this goal.

Mr. Chairman,

Over the past few years, food security and economic crises have highlighted both the urgent need and the potential for developing sustainable agricultural systems. The Rio Outcome Document reiterates the importance of sustainable agriculture and the need for increased investments to enhance global food production. As nearly one billion people globally lack access to adequate food and nutrition and in order to accelerate the desired development, producing more food with fewer resources while reinvigorating rural economies as well as enhancing access to high quality research and technology in addition to addressing the systemic problems by improving global trade and reducing loss and waste in food systems which amount to 1.3 billion tonnes per year from production to consumption, additionally by improving harvest, postharvest management, food storage and transport; long-term benefits can be delivered to communities.
Mr. Chairman,

Poverty and food insecurity are more concentrated in the rural areas where people own small parcels of low production agricultural land. Accordingly supporting the world’s 450 million small farms which are home to about two billion people would play a greater role in food production.

Jordan is considered to be heavily urbanized and about 21 per cent of the population live in rural areas, Jordan is highly dependent on food and fuel imports and the challenge to meet population needs from food and water is well-known at all levels. Climate change is also expected to have significant impacts on water supplies and agricultural production in Jordan, however, a series of development projects and initiatives have been undertaken and yielded good results leading to a more modernized and export-oriented agricultural sector.

Mr. Chairman,

At a time where agriculture is of utmost importance in providing people with means of living, it is hoped that with greater global collaboration, investment and innovation among all stakeholders, food security, environmental sustainability and economic opportunity would be realized through agriculture as we continue to outline the goals in the post-2015 development framework.

I thank you.