DECLARATION OF THE 8th FORUM OF THE PARLIAMENTARY FRONTS AGAINST HUNGER IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

OCTOBER 25, 26 AND 27
MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

We, members of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean (PFH LAC) on the occasion of our 8th Forum,

CONSIDERING

That hunger and malnutrition in all its forms is on the rise and that, regrettably, the downward trend of undernutrition is reverting in the region making it increasingly harder to reach the targets set forth in the 2025 Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean (HFLAC) Initiative.

That this situation is a consequence of climate change, economic stagnation, long-term conflicts, and social injustices stemming from unequal wealth distribution, among other causes.

That it has become necessary for Parliaments to step up efforts to remedy this situation and for countries to join forces to reach Goal 2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that aims to “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.”

That effective and strategic communication must be mainstreamed in all actions undertaken by the PFH LAC for better advocacy and to accelerate the achievement of these outcomes.

That the PFH LAC, in association with its partners, is a key ally in addressing this situation and is regarded as an example for other continents. The PFH LAC seeks to preserve its identity and inner strengths and continue holding its yearly forums, which is why the agreements and declarations of previous forums are acknowledged and considered. The venue for the 9th Forum of the PFH LAC will be determined by the Executive Coordinating Committee in consultation with the Extended Coordinating Committee.

WE WILL THEREFORE SEEK:

Partnerships, governance and communication to fight hunger and malnutrition.

1. Continue working with our strategic partners, namely FAO, the Spanish International Cooperation Agency for Development (AECID), the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the Mexican International Cooperation Agency for Development (AMEXCID), the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament (PARLATINO), the Spanish Parliament, fronts and alliances from other regions, such as the Pan African Alliance for Food and Nutrition Security, the European Parliament Alliance for Food and Nutrition Security, and international organizations (PAHO, WHO, ECLAC). We will also endeavor to create bridges with regional integration organizations such as ECLAC, civil society organizations and academia (e.g., the Right to Food Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean RFO LAC).
2. Establish partnerships with other United Nations organizations, such as UNDP, IOM and WFP, and other parliamentary bodies such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).


4. Provide support to developing fronts and partnerships in other regions of the world in preparation for the Global Parliamentary Alliance (Africa, Asia, Europe)

5. Generate national and sub-national partnerships with Governments and a cross-sector of institutions, legislatures, civil society and citizens’ organizations, academia, peasant organizations, consumers, the food industry, and international organizations.

6. Establish partnerships with journalists, communicators and the media to raise awareness on FNS-related issues promoting joint capacity building and actions, solidarity among sister nations, and the sharing of successful local experiences.

7. Encourage the establishment of national and district/state PFHs promoting the greatest possible plurality, focusing primarily on the Caribbean.

8. Effectively disseminate information emanating from local and regional PFHs.

9. Contribute to processes of social ownership of Food and Nutrition Security legislation with the active involvement and participation of civil society.

10. Strengthen regional and national awareness-raising actions, e.g. generating content (research, articles, manuals, etc.) to facilitate decision-making on political and technical issues; engage more stakeholders in zero hunger initiatives, among others.

11. Ensure that every PFH be provided assistance from their country’s RFO.

Monitoring, adequate budgets, reviews and follow-up applying food and nutrition security policy indicators.

12. Review and monitor the implementation of our countries’ Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) legislation working closely with national and sub-national governments and civil society, promoting mechanisms for citizens’ participation to ensure maximum transparency and proper use of resources.

13. Follow up applying food and nutrition security indicators to help considerably reduce hunger and malnutrition, focusing on early childhood.

14. Promote adequate and specific budgets, and progressively increasing allocations.

15. Propose a methodology for regional monitoring of parliamentary engagement in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 2 of “Zero Hunger”.

Political decisions and strategies to end hunger in the region

16. Mainstream food production development policies applying climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, and promote environmental accountability measures.

17. Promote legal and policy frameworks with a human-rights based approach to ensure the justiciability of the right to food and its effective realization, on issues of FNS, such as climate change, food loss and waste, improved nutrition, labelling laws, advertising regulations, school meals, FNS institutional arrangements, among others.

18. Our PFHs must focus on developing affirmative action plans to ensure full participation of women in the search for solutions to eradicate hunger and malnutrition.
19. Build capacities of members of parliament and their advisors on these issues.
20. Promote funding for the implementation of the “100 territories” strategy that aims to determine the local causes of the prevalence of hunger and undernutrition indicators, to develop acceptable legislation, adequate budgets and targeted public policy so that, in light of the difficulties identified in the territories and working locally and collaboratively through inclusive governance, livelihoods can improve as well as undernutrition indicators in regions identified as those most vulnerable to food insecurity.

21. Foster stronger peasant economies and/or family farming, including small-scale fisheries and peri-urban production (public procurement, market linkages, access to credit, crop insurance, processes that promote rurality, the elimination of intermediaries, promotion of non-farming activities, and youth employment, among others), in order to fight hunger, generate wealth, and help overcome poverty and reduce migration.

22. Mobilizing resources to ensure development and secure results for our PFHs.

We would like to thank the Government of Uruguay, which declared this event of national interest, and the Parliament of Uruguay and its staff for hosting this important Parliamentary meeting, as well as the Spanish International Cooperation Agency for Development (AECID), the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC), the Mexican International Cooperation Agency for Development (AMEXCID), FAO and PARLATINO for organizing and endorsing the event.

Participating and signatory PFH delegations: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Representatives of other invited countries: Barbados, Grenada and Saint Lucia.
1) Mauricio Rondeño
2) Hamlet Melo
3) Jesús Serrano Loria
4) Víctor James Correa Vélez
5) Jorge E. Puello Rivero
6) Delia Guerrero Colonado
7) Vanessa Zuccari
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Ecuador
Rep. Dom. 27/4/17
México
Colombia
Colombia
Q. Lamar Méx.
Argentina
Schmidt Lucas, Sergio
Jacopposilvina Argentina
James Paul Banquidos
Jairo Flores FPH Guatemala
Parliament, Grenada

Higgin Amedeau Haití
Alfredo Antione
Tanis Tertiis Haití
Parliament of Grenada.
Nelson Toselli
Nelson Landarabe
Uruguay

Berta Sausseverino
Uruguay

Hugo Richoz
Pozogang

Marlene Madrigal Flores
Coordinadora
Ejecutiva

Sen. María Teresa Calderón Arrieta
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Sra. M. Eva Copa Mungo
Bolivia