



Preparatory events towards the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition



PLANNED EVENTS

Thematic session

Parliamentary action to promote improved nutrition and affordable healthy diets for all
28 September, online

Thematic session

Parliamentary action on tackling gender inequality to achieve food security and improved nutrition for all
27 October, online

Pre-Summit

Meeting to prepare for the Second Global Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition
30 November, hybrid format

Summary

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) have organized a series of events to support the preparation of the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, to be held in 2023. These events aim to inform the agenda for the forthcoming Summit and stimulate parliamentary dialogue and action around food security and nutrition.

Background

The world is not on track to meet the United Nations 2030 Agenda goal of ending hunger and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030. Between 702 and 828 million people were affected by hunger in 2021¹. This number has grown by about 150 million since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The gender gap in food security and nutrition has also increased as the COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected women’s economic opportunities and access to healthy food.

As recognized by the 2030 Agenda, parliamentarians have an important role to play in strengthening food security and nutrition in the societies they represent by using their powers to enact legislation, oversee budgetary spending and ensure government accountability for the implementation of relevant policies and commitments.

¹FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2022. The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022. Repurposing food and agricultural policies to make healthy diets more affordable. Rome, FAO.
<https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0639en>.

Exploring ways to tackle hunger and malnutrition

Recognizing this, parliamentarians around the world have taken part in various dialogues and events to explore ways to tackle hunger and malnutrition, including the first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, held in Madrid in 2018. The final declaration from the Summit urged the parliamentary community “to act and decisively towards eradicating discrimination in all of its forms, particularly gender-based discrimination”, and to redouble efforts to “stimulate the adoption of legislation, policies, and programs to improve and ensure sustainable access to a healthy diet, especially through support for family farming and sustainable food production, as well as gender-sensitive measures”.

As follow-up to the Summit, FAO and the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) organized a series of virtual parliamentary dialogues, during which parliamentarians shared their experiences addressing the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. Parliamentarians also took part in various dialogues around the UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) convened by the UN Secretary-General in September 2021 to launch bold action to transform the way the world produces, consumes, and thinks about food, as a crucial step in progressing on all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). During these dialogues and events, parliamentarians signaled their interest in continued dialogue and experience-sharing.

A Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition

Given that parliamentary action to tackle hunger and malnutrition is more necessary than ever, AECID and FAO plan to bring parliamentarians together for the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, to be held in 2023. The forthcoming Summit aims to take stock of the issues, ideas and actions discussed during the virtual parliamentary dialogues and UNFSS and to stimulate further parliamentary action to build on progress made since the 2018 Summit. In so doing, it seeks to contribute towards a redoubling of efforts to end hunger and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030.

FAO and IISD have organized a series of events to support the preparation of the forthcoming Summit and thereby ensure that it is able to facilitate useful exchanges of experiences between parliamentarians and stimulate renewed parliamentary action to tackle hunger and malnutrition. These events aim to raise parliamentarians’ awareness about important issues relevant to efforts to tackle hunger and malnutrition, to stimulate discussion, debate and knowledge exchange among parliamentarians, to share FAO tools, to capture and document relevant insights and experiences and to inform the agenda for the forthcoming Summit.

Planned events to support the preparation of the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition

1. Thematic session: "Parliamentary action to promote improved nutrition and affordable healthy diets for all"

Virtual format (Zoom), 13h00 - 15h00 (CEST), 28 September

This event aims to raise awareness among parliamentarians about the importance of tackling malnutrition in all its forms and to identify opportunities for parliamentary action to promote healthy diets and improved nutrition for all. The session will focus on technical presentations as well as relevant cases/experiences in the field of FSN with the purpose of providing fundamental elements from a parliamentary perspective. Participants will also be directed to an online survey which is intended to capture information about relevant activities and parliamentary priorities to inform the agenda for the forthcoming Summit.

2. Thematic session: “Parliamentary action on tackling gender inequality to achieve food security and improved nutrition for all”

Virtual format (Zoom), 13h00 - 15h00 (CEST), 27 October

This event aims to raise awareness among parliamentarians about how gender inequality and discrimination against women and girls affect hunger and malnutrition and to identify opportunities for parliamentary action to tackle gender inequality in the context of ending hunger, promoting food security and improved nutrition, and making food systems more equitable, resilient, and sustainable. The session will focus on technical presentations as well as relevant cases/experiences in the field of gender and FSN with the purpose of providing fundamental elements from a parliamentary perspective. Participants will also be directed to an online survey which is intended to capture information about relevant activities and parliamentary priorities to inform the agenda for the forthcoming Summit.

3. Pre-Summit meeting against Hunger and Malnutrition

Hybrid format, online (Zoom) and in-person, 13h00 - 15h00 (CET), 30 November

This event will reflect on the issues, insights, ideas and experiences shared during previous virtual parliamentary dialogues, during the two thematic sessions and through the online survey and captured in a strategic document prepared by FAO and IISD. Representatives of national and regional parliaments will be invited to participate to jointly develop a draft agenda for the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition based on these issues, insights, ideas and experiences. The event will also be broadcast online for the public to watch via Zoom.

Objectives

The aforementioned preparatory events aim to pave the way for the organization of the Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition. These activities have the objective of strengthening parliamentary capacities through specialized thematic sessions, enriching the political dialogue, and promoting food security and nutrition legislation. Likewise, it is expected that these activities will offer a space for parliamentarians to put together priorities emerging from the Madrid Summit in 2018, the results of the Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues "Food Security and Nutrition in times of COVID-19" and the recommendations that arose during the United Nations Food Systems Summit.

General methodology

The preparatory events will be held through the **Zoom** platform and will take place in single sessions, lasting 2 hours each.

The events will be from **13:00 to 15:00** CEST/CET. All the preparatory events towards the Second Global Parliamentary Summit will have simultaneous interpretations in different languages.



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