


II GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY SUMMIT
**AGAINST HUNGER
AND MALNUTRITION**

Chile | 15-16 June 2023

CONCEPT NOTE

Promoting enabling environments for Inclusive, Resilient,
Efficient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems



IN COLLABORATION WITH:

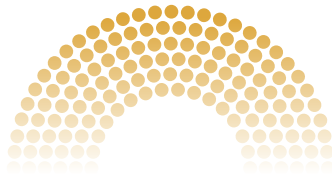


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Parliamentary Front
Against Hunger

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BACKGROUND

The world is not on track to meet the goal to end world hunger and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030. The COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine and climate change made this endeavour significantly more challenging, increasing the number of people suffering from hunger, intensifying inequalities and jeopardizing progress achieved in the past decades. At the same time, farmers – and humanity as a whole – are facing new challenges posed by climate change, land degradation and water scarcity, biodiversity loss as well as other negative environmental impacts: an unprecedented, complex and overlapping wave of crises.

In 2021, between 702 and 828 million people were affected by **hunger**¹. It is estimated that nearly 670 million people will suffer from hunger in 2030 – around 8 percent of the global population, the same percentage as in 2015, when the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was launched² – a significant setback in progress towards SDG2, with serious implications for the achievement of all SDGs.

Malnutrition is also a major challenge. Rising consumer food prices mean the number of people unable to afford a healthy diet grew by 112 million in only one year to almost 3.1 billion³. Child malnutrition is particularly concerning. An estimated 22 percent (149 million) of children under 5 are affected by stunting, 6.7 percent (45 million) suffer from wasting and 5.7 percent (39 million) are overweight⁴. Adult obesity is increasing in all regions from 11.8 percent in 2012 to 13.1 percent in 2016, the last year for which data is available.

Furthermore, at the global level, the **gender gap** in the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity grew even larger in the year of the COVID-19 pandemic, disproportionately affecting women's economic opportunities and access to healthy food. Globally and in every region of the world, food insecurity is more prevalent among women than men. Women and girls are also more likely to suffer from various forms of malnutrition, including undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight, obesity and anaemia – in 2019, nearly one in three women aged 15 to 49 years (571 million) were affected by anaemia⁵.

Agriculture⁶ and food systems are deeply intertwined with economies, cultures, societies, health, climate and the environment; hence, both agriculture and food systems affect progress towards the majority of SDGs and are uniquely placed to contribute to it.

1 FAO, 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.

2 FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2022.

3 FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2022.

4 FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2022.

5 FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2022.

6 In this document, agriculture refers to crop, livestock, fisheries (capture and aquaculture) and forestry..

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Increasing food production is no longer the main challenge to address hunger. The world already produces more food than needed to feed all the global population, but around a third of the food produced is either lost or wasted and most of the world's poor people living in rural areas – where most of the food is produced – are unable to fulfil their basic needs.

There is a strong need to increase access to food and raise incomes and economic opportunities for vulnerable populations, particularly in rural areas. More specifically, there is a need to increase access to healthy, nutritious, sustainably produced and culturally acceptable food and to more remunerative, fair and inclusive markets.

Family farming⁷ is the predominant farming model worldwide, as it accounts for 90 per cent of the 608 million farms in the world and it produces the majority of the world's food in value terms. In spite of that, almost 80 percent of the world's poor and food insecure live in rural areas. Most of them are small-scale family farmers, who face difficulties accessing productive resources, opportunities and markets. The concentration in value chains and the distribution of economic benefits in food systems are also areas to consider. Solutions to strengthen and diversify market opportunities for family farmers can contribute to increasing the diversity of food systems and improve the availability and affordability of food.

On the production side, the promotion of sustainable agrifood systems must address the increasing degradation of natural resources, rising greenhouse gas emissions, loss of biodiversity, climate change and its repercussions on agriculture, with obvious impacts on food security. This essential goal is becoming increasingly difficult to achieve including due to the growing impact of climate change, an existential threat that requires immediate action to achieve zero emissions in 2050 in full respect of the Paris Agreement.

Consumption patterns are evolving rapidly, with a continuously increasing number of people looking for diets that are healthier, safer, more nature-positive, economically equitable and socially just. This shift in consumer behaviour is constantly increasing the demand for more healthy, sustainable and culturally appropriate food creating new market opportunities for producers applying sustainable and diversified production practices. The emergence of these new markets will foster the transition towards more sustainable production systems. From another side, it will require attention from Nations to develop legislation, regulations, programmes and policies to encourage and enable farmers to fulfil requirements, particularly those without the means to pay for private certifications.

In light of this scenario, the United Nations 2030 Agenda calls on countries to **redouble their efforts** to address the Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG2), which seeks to “end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture” in order to build a world where “no one is left behind”.

⁷ Family farming is a means of organizing agricultural, forestry, fisheries, pastoral and aquaculture production that is managed and operated by a family, and is primarily reliant on the family labour of both women and men.

PARLIAMENTARIANS' PROCESS TOWARDS THE II GLOBAL SUMMIT

In this context, the **essential role of parliamentarians** in promoting food security and nutrition in their countries has been affirmed. With their powers to draft and adopt legislation, approve public budgets and monitor the implementation of public policies and government commitments, legislators are well placed to ensure that food security and nutrition are prioritized on national political and legislative agendas, in line with the specific contexts and needs of their societies.

Recognizing the key role they can play, parliamentarians around the world have been working to position the fight against hunger and malnutrition at the top of political and legislative agendas at national, regional and international levels. Below, some initiatives carried out globally.

First Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition

In October 2018, around 200 parliamentarians from around the world gathered for the **first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition**⁸, held in Madrid, Spain. The Summit was organized by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Spanish *Cortes Generales*, and the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean and explored how parliamentarians can use their legislative and oversight powers to promote food security and improve nutrition. In the **Summit's final declaration**, parliamentarians recognized their key role in ending hunger and malnutrition, as well as the need for laws and policies that protect the right to adequate food for all and to tackle gender inequalities.

Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues on 'Food Security and Nutrition in the time of COVID-19'

As a follow-up to the first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, between March and September 2021, FAO and AECID held a series of **Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues on Food Security and Nutrition in the time of COVID-19** focused on the challenges posed by this pandemic, with the participation of parliamentarians from 50 countries and nine parliamentary networks.

The Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues highlighted the various actions that parliamentarians have taken to help reduce and mitigate the negative impacts of COVID-19 on food security and nutrition, including through emergency legislation and the oversight of government action. The Dialogues highlighted the important role of timely parliamentary action to combat hunger and malnutrition in the face of crises and the essential role parliamentarians play in raising public awareness and mobilizing multi-stakeholder partnerships⁹.

⁸ See: <https://www.fao.org/about/meetings/global-parliamentary-summit/en/>

⁹ March 2021 – Mesoamerica and South America; 19 March 2021 – Francophone African Countries; 1 April 2021 Arabic Countries; 15 April 2021 Anglophone African Countries; 31 May 2021 Latin America and the Caribbean; 6 September 2021 Asia Pacific Countries; 22 September 2021 Global Dialogue. For a more in-depth overview of the Dialogues, see: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc1338en/cc1338en.pdf>.

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UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS)

The **UN Food Systems Summit**, convened by the United Nations Secretary-General, was held in September 2021 with the aim of launching bold actions to transform the way the world produces, consumes, and thinks about food, as a crucial step towards achieving progress in all 17 SDGs. During the process leading to the UNFSS, parliamentarians were encouraged to contribute to national and global dialogues to define strategies and pathways for transforming food systems, with the active participation of affected people and relevant stakeholders in planning and decision-making.

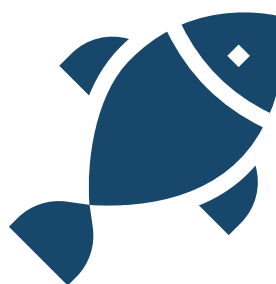
7th meeting of the Presidents of the Parliaments of G20 Members

In line with the above, during the G20, FAO participated in the **7th meeting of the Presidents of the Parliaments** of G20 Members focused on Food Security and Resilience in the face of COVID-19 (Rome, 8 **October 2021**) highlighting the role of parliamentarians as the “officials who can develop policies and legal instruments to address the pressing challenges we face together”.

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

To contribute to build the Agenda for the Summit, during 2022, FAO, with the support of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) organized a **series of preparatory events** to raise awareness among parliamentarians of key issues relating to food security and nutrition and stimulate dialogue on the role parliamentarians can play to contribute towards ending hunger and malnutrition. Building on the thematic sessions and the previous Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues, a Pre-Summit Meeting provided an opportunity for parliamentarians to reflect on the issues, insights and experiences shared and identify their expectations for the forthcoming Summit. During the thematic sessions, FAO launched an online survey to collect examples of parliamentary action to address hunger and malnutrition taken since the first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition and identify priority issues that parliamentarians would like the forthcoming Summit to address.

In all those occasions, parliamentarians, aware of their role of custodians of political commitments, showed their determination to promote, nurture and strengthen the strong, shared political will and the action needed to rebuild better food systems, particularly in the aftermath of crises, and ensure all countries are back on a path to meeting the SDGs by 2030.



JUSTIFICATION, OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS

Justification: The forthcoming Summit aims to take stock of the issues, ideas and actions discussed during the previous parliamentary exchanges and dialogues and stimulate further parliamentary action to build on progress made since the 2018 Summit. In doing so, it seeks to contribute the redoubling of efforts to end hunger and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030.

The *Second Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition*, to be held in Chile in 2023, will provide a unique opportunity to share experiences on legislation enacted in parliaments throughout the world and their implementation, as well as to foster linkages among Parliamentarians and Parliaments to promote collaboration. The Summit will also provide an opportunity to discuss the needs and priorities previously expressed and identified by parliamentarians in order to address the challenges associated to the fight against hunger and malnutrition, and to explore the possibility of formal voluntary commitments by networks of parliamentarians on the basis of a Global Parliamentary Pact, including periodic monitoring and follow-up on legislative outcomes and achievements made.

Specific Objectives:

The Summit will:

- A** Reaffirm the **urgency of ending hunger and malnutrition** in all its forms as a prerequisite for achieving Sustainable Development Goals, emphasizing the crucial **role that parliamentarians** can play in ensuring food security and nutrition, including through the adoption of gender-sensitive approaches.
- B** **Identify and share examples of good practices**, particularly in relation to the development of innovative legislation, that have been effective in the fight against hunger and malnutrition or that look promising.
- C** **Identify key priority areas for further parliamentary action on food security and nutrition.** Several priority areas emerged during the Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues and thematic sessions, as well as from the survey responses, which will provide the basis for deliberation and prioritisation at the Summit. These priority areas for action include:

- Protecting the right to adequate food for all;
- Promoting better nutrition;
- Protecting the most vulnerable sectors of society;
- Addressing gender inequalities and the gender gap in food security and nutrition;
- Making food systems more environmentally sustainable;
- Promoting responsible investments in agriculture;
- Supporting small-scale producers and family farmers;
- Building resilience to crises;
- Enhancing coordination, cooperation and collaboration; and
- Playing a stronger role with regard to budget approval and government oversight.

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- D Build consensus among parliamentarians on the need for action in these priority areas and stimulate broader political commitment (including through a Pact) and support for such action,** as well as parliamentary efforts to develop strong, coherent, comprehensive and implementable legal and policy frameworks at the national and international levels to promote improved food security and nutrition.

Expected Outputs: The main outcomes expected from the Summit will include:

- A** Consolidate existing parliamentary networks and alliances for food security and nutrition and promote new parliamentary alliances to contribute to the achievement of SDG2, with particular attention to the most vulnerable people and territories, and a focus on gender (SDG5).
- B** Discuss and pool efforts for the implementation of a Global Parliamentary Pact that includes a periodic monitoring system to keep track of parliamentarians' contributions to SDGs 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 13 and 17, by collecting data on relevant legislations/commitments, informing the international community, giving visibility to role played by parliamentarians, and consolidating the Global Parliamentary Summit as a periodic space for parliamentary dialogue on priority areas of work for food security and nutrition.



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

The logo for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is centered on a light gray background. It features the words "SUSTAINABLE", "DEVELOPMENT", and "GOALS" stacked vertically in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letter "O" in "GOALS" is replaced by a circular icon composed of 17 colored segments, each representing one of the 17 SDGs.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME AND STRUCTURE

The Summit, scheduled to be held on 15 and 16 June 2023, will have a high-level opening plenary session. In the morning session of the first day, organizers, regional parliamentary representatives and other partners will have a chance to highlight the crucial role of parliaments in achieving Zero Hunger, eradicating malnutrition and contributing to the realization of the right to adequate food.

This will be followed by four sessions focusing on how parliamentarians are contributing to address key agrifood system challenges. In the afternoon of the second day the conclusions will be presented, discussed and a Summit declaration may be discussed and adopted.

Around 200 Parliamentarians from all over the world are expected to attend the Summit. The Summit will be a hybrid event combining the participation of around 150 parliamentarians in person with a virtual component (around 50 parliamentarians) and an online audience. The invited parliamentarians will cover all regions of the world, with special support foreseen for legislators from low- and middle-income countries. Invitations will be extended to parliaments all over the globe, as well as to parliamentary alliances and networks collaborating with FAO and parliamentarians who proactively engaged in the Virtual Parliamentary Dialogues and other preparatory activities. The Summit will have simultaneous interpretation in all official UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish and Russian).

PARTNERS

As was the case with the first Global Parliamentary Summit, FAO and AECID are partnering in the organisation of the Second Summit, pooling resources to ensure adequate technical and financial support.

The President of the Chilean Senate, the President of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile and the President of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger and Malnutrition of Chile proposed the Republic of Chile as host of the second Global Parliamentary Summit, ensuring logistical support, including provision of an adequate venue and all needed technical equipment. The Government of Chile also expressed its willingness to contribute financially and operationally in the organization of the Summit.

COLLABORATORS

Furthermore, the Summit will be supported by the European Commission and the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean (FPH-LAC), a network involving more than 25 parliaments of the region and formed in 2009, within the framework of the "Latin America and the Caribbean without Hunger" Initiative. The FPH-LAC has since developed important legislative work, with the support of FAO, in partnership AECID and, more recently, the Mexican Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AMEXCID).

DELIVERY AND OVERSIGHT

An interdepartmental Task Force, composed of representatives from across FAO, AECID, FPH-LAC and the Chilean government will constitute the **International Organizing Committee** and the **Technical-Logistics Committee**.

The International Organizing Committee will provide the guidelines, strategic indications to lead the planning, and development processes of the event, ensuring monitoring and follow-up of agreements reached and commitments made to manage the organization and ensure the success of the Summit. In particular, the International Organizing Committee will guide the development of the Summit concept note, agenda, invitations, possible side events, content of supporting documents, protocol activities, potential outcomes of the Summit and draft final declaration.

In parallel, the Technical Logistics Committee, under the guidance of the International Organizing Committee, will be in charge of operational matters.

FAO will guarantee constant liaison with regional, sub-regional and national parliamentary networks to ensure proper representation, transparency, accountability and effective participation during the event.



