WFP STATEMENT

Date: 21 October 2024

CFS 52

Agenda Item II. d): Briefing about ongoing international initiatives against hunger and poverty

Ministers, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen.

At the outset, the World Food Programme would like to express its appreciation to the CFS for having convened such a timely and important discussion.

We extend our special thanks to the CFS Chairperson, Ambassador Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile, and praise her strong commitment to keep the global food and nutrition crisis high on the CFS agenda.

As the world faces complex challenges, we welcome the continued efforts by Member States to ensure that Food Security and Nutrition receive dedicated attention. We welcome the leadership that Brazil, Colombia, France and Spain, as well as the African Union, have demonstrated today in leveraging their platform for the fight against hunger and poverty.

In this spirit, WFP commends the Brazilian Government for placing the fight against hunger at the center of their G20 Presidency, and for the establishment of The Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty.

The Global Alliance represents a timely Member State led effort to reverse the negative trends related to SDG 1 and 2 in recent years, and to accelerate action to achieve the 2030 Agenda. It brings a vital global focus to the issues of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, and the intrinsic link between them.

By bringing together the combined expertise of international organizations, knowledge centers, philanthropic organizations, civil society and International Financial Institutions (IFIs), the Global Alliance will pool our knowledge, expertise, resources and extensive global network in support of ambitious country-level efforts to address food insecurity and malnutrition.

WFP is enthusiastic about the potential the Global Alliance has to enhance South-South and Triangular Cooperation actions to accelerate action on eradicating poverty and achieving Zero Hunger. The "sprint groups" offer an additional platform to expand school meals, nutrition, social protection, and resilience programmes, which are critical to tackling poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

As a founding member of the Global Alliance, WFP is committed to enhancing the Support Mechanism of the Global Alliance and is working with the Brazilian G20 Presidency on a Digital Hub platform for the request and matchmaking process

WFP would also like to commend the French government for hosting the 2025 Nutrition for Growth Summit in Paris. The Summit provides a key milestone in putting nutrition at the center of sustainable development agenda, making malnutrition a universal cause, while scaling up nutrition interventions, innovating for impact and enabling high levels of political and financial commitment.

WFP will leverage the N4G Summit to mobilize required policy and agenda shifts, and the necessary quality long term flexible resources, to significantly reduce malnutrition and improve access to healthy, nutritious diets for the most vulnerable populations worldwide – particularly for women, and children within their first 1000 days.

WFP would also like to welcome the Italian G7 Presidency's prioritization of food security and commends the G7 Agriculture Ministers for their Joint Declaration adopted in Siracusa, which commits to making agriculture and food systems more productive, resilient, and sustainable.

WFP welcomes the Apulia Food Security Initiative, launched at the G7 Leaders' Summit and later adopted in Pescara at the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Development.

WFP looks forward to working with G7 partners to further explore innovative financial mechanisms, including food-for-debt swaps, and is ready to contribute its expertise to these discussions.

The World Food Programme reiterates its full commitment and support to these critical initiatives. Together, we can - and we must - fulfil our shared mission to banish hunger and malnutrition to the history books.

Thank you.

END