

STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR NOSIPHO NAUSCA-JEAN JEZILE, CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY, ON THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN GAZA AND OTHER AREAS OF CONFLICT

H.E. Ambassador Nosipho Nausca-Jean Jezile, Chairperson of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), reiterates the grave concern about the humanitarian situation in Gaza and calls for urgent and unrestricted humanitarian access, emphasizing the critical need to avert acute food insecurity now affecting the entire population. The Chairperson also underscores the critical food security situation in other conflicts areas, including Haiti, Lebanon, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. Notably Sudan is highlighted to have reached highest levels of acute hunger.

In line with the CFS Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises (CFS-FFA), it is of critical importance to address food insecurity and malnutrition in protracted crises through coordinated, rights-based, and context-specific actions that integrate humanitarian and development efforts.

The humanitarian situation in Gaza has sharply deteriorated since the limitation of humanitarian aid in early March 2025. The Chairperson says "I underscore the urgent need for reliable, sustained, sufficient and unhindered access of essential goods and services to civilians throughout the Gaza Strip and in other conflict areas, including but not limited to water, food, medical supplies and energy". Ambassador Jezile recalls the obligations under International Humanitarian Law on the protection of objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population and the prohibition to use starvation of civilians as a method of warfare.

The Chairperson highlights the role of UN-led response broadly, particularly by FAO, IFAD and WFP in coordination and collaboration with other United Nations agencies, international financial institutions and relevant bodies, to continue assessing and addressing within their respective mandates, the impact of the conflict on food security, nutrition and agriculture in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in the Gaza Strip.



Catastrophic levels of food insecurity will further intensify rapidly, with thousands more at risk of dying from hunger and malnutrition unless humanitarian access improves and aid deliveries resume, according to several UN agencies and humanitarian organizations. The CFS Chairperson reiterates the urgent necessity for all parties to allow unimpeded humanitarian access to Gaza, to prevent further loss of life and uphold the fundamental human right to food amid the ongoing conflict.