

The Republic of Armenia

Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. The Republic of Armenia hereby voluntarily *joins the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty* and states its dedication to pursue the Alliance's mission, objectives and principles, as *expressed* in the Global Alliance's Terms of Reference and Governance Framework, and to collaborate with other members to achieve lasting solutions to poverty and hunger worldwide, as expressed below.

The Republic of Armenia:

2. *Recognizes* that hunger and malnutrition are the perverse manifestations of persistent, structural poverty and inequality, and recognizes the need to end poverty and hunger in all their forms and dimensions and to fully and effectively implement the 2030 Agenda.
3. *Acknowledges* the alarming growth in the number of people facing food insecurity and poverty in recent years, noting that, despite all significant past and current efforts, the world is not on track to meet SDG 1 and 2 targets, inequality is also on the rise (SDG 10), and a significant increase in collective ambition, as well as improvement in collective alignment and coordination for the fight against hunger and poverty, is urgently needed.
4. To that effect, *endorses* the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty and its mission to *support and accelerate efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty (SDGs 1 and 2) while reducing inequalities (SDG 10), contributing to revitalize global partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17) and to the achievement of other interlinked SDGs, and championing sustainable, inclusive and just transitions.*
5. *Notes* that it is crucial for the world to unite behind large-scale, integrated approaches combining international, regional, national, and local levels, that recognize the interconnected nature of challenges and solutions to hunger and poverty and pair social protection with access to goods and services that can help the poor and vulnerable populations to overcome structural barriers and drive responsible investment in their productive capacity. These complementary services include but are not limited to interventions for poverty reduction, food security and nutrition, early childhood support, education and skills development, employment services, health and care services, as well as family farmers and smallholders' access to finance, extension services, research and/or agricultural inputs, in line with international commitments and obligations.
6. *Particularly recognizes* the high value and positive impact of quality implementation of national and local country-owned, inclusive policy instruments and programmes, focused on the poorest and most vulnerable, in the fields of poverty reduction, social protection, food security and nutrition, gender equality, decent work in the agri-food sector,

skills development, family farming and smallholder agriculture, food systems transformation, health and care services and resilience building.

7. Also *acknowledges* the Global Alliance's reference basket of such policies as a collectively built, ongoing collection of examples with robust evidence to reduce hunger and poverty, and as a useful basis to guide joint action and increase alignment of the international community at country level. This acknowledgement is applicable to the policy basket approach as a general guide to action and does not imply endorsement of any specific policy instrument or programme contained in the basket.
8. Therefore, by joining the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, *commits* to do its best efforts, in its own field of action, and according to its own mandate, capacities, priorities, preferences, procedures, and legal arrangements and framework, to support the implementation of policy instruments and programmes at country level as appropriate, including by the promotion of shared learning and the mobilization of resources, public and private, at scale.

In particular:

Domestic policy implementation commitments

The Republic of Armenia acknowledges its role in the national-level implementation of policies and programmes against hunger and poverty, as well as for providing guidance and support to national and sub-national level policies and programmes.

The Republic of Armenia:

Commits to make its best efforts to implement, improve, and/or scale-up the implementation of policy instruments and programmes from among those contained in the Global Alliance's policy basket in our national context. These policy instruments and programme suggestions would be adapted to the specific conditions, realities and opportunities presented in our country.

In particular, The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, The Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports, The Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Environment commit to implement, improve, or scale-up the implementation of the following policy instruments or programmes, referenced in the Global Alliance's reference basket:

- 1) **Programme one:** Shock Responsive Social Protection, revision of social protection safety-nets according to vulnerability and needs criteria. This includes legislative frameworks, systems, services and tools such as emergency cash-based transfers.
- 2) **Programme two:** Support to livelihood diversification and integrated programmes for economic inclusion: This entails graduation models from social protection schemes towards employment and livelihoods.
- 3) **Programme three:** Transformative School Meals: The Government is providing healthy and nutritious meals to children in grade 0-4 and are using schools as delivery platforms to introduce change in local and national food systems, inclusive of green circular economy models and for food security, biodiversity and nutrition education.

School Meals is provided to children in all ten regions of Armenia and plans to expand in the capital (Yerevan).

4) **Programme four:** Climate resilient agricultural technologies to enhance farmers' agricultural income, food security, productivity increases and climate adaptive programmes.

Commits to observe good practices throughout the implementation of such policy instruments and programmes, including maintaining effective governance, seeking avenues for domestic resource mobilization for funding such programs and providing for appropriate monitoring and evaluation, with adaptation and learning based on social involvement and consultation, local stakeholder engagement, minimizing negative impacts and seeking to adequately manage policy trade-offs.

Policy cooperation and support commitments

Commits to, within its capacities, share its own learnings and otherwise provide appropriate help and support, within its means, to other Global Alliance member countries to implement, improve, or scale-up the implementation of policies and programmes referenced in the Alliance's basket.

Specifically, informs and commits to implementing the following actions, programmes, and other activities related to lessons-learned and international cooperation in support of the Global Alliance's objectives:

The Republic of Armenia commits to support international cooperation and lessons sharing in policy implementation on the following themes:

1) Programme one: Policy Basket: Social Protection

Shock Responsive Social Protection, social protection safety-nets programs based on vulnerability and needs criteria's. This includes legislative frameworks, systems, services such as emergency cash-based transfers and digital tools including social registry. The Government of Armenia can provide knowledge support for embedding food security and shock responsive elements into national social protection schemes: Legislative acts, Institutional set up, implementation arrangements.

2) Programme two: Policy Basket: Support to small holder farmers

Support to livelihood diversification and integrated programmes for economic inclusion. The Government of Armenia has various subsidy and support programmes and mechanisms to enhance local food security and systems. The Government of Armenia also has a food security strategy which includes the food system approach.

3) Programme three: Policy Basket: School Meals

Transformative School Meals: The Government is providing healthy and nutritious meals to children in grade 0-4 and are using schools as delivery platforms to introduce change in local and national food systems, inclusive of green circular economy models and for food security, biodiversity and nutrition education. The Government of Armenia can provide knowledge support for nationalisation of School Meals: Legislative acts,

Institutional set up, implementation arrangements, and innovative, sustainable solutions.

Programme four: Policy Basket: Integrated programmes for climate and shock resilience

Climate resilient agricultural technologies to enhance farmers agricultural income, food security, productivity increases and climate adaptive programmes. The Government of Armenia has various support programmes to promote climate resilient agricultural and environmental and biodiversity friendly practises and enhance resilience against climate change. This also includes significant investments in irrigation and productive assets in rural areas and facilitated access to rural finance and inputs.

Knowledge support commitments

The Republic of Armenia:

Commits to make its best efforts to co-create and provide technical assistance, capacity building and strengthening, training and/or knowledge-sharing on voluntary and mutually agreed terms in response to requests by Global Alliance member countries that choose to implement policy instruments and programmes in the Alliance's policy basket that are compatible with its areas of expertise.

Commits to make its best efforts to improve the alignment of its actions, including through the Global Alliance's coordination mechanisms, leveraging, and partnering with other actors to better support large scale, country-owned implementation of policies and programmes in the reference basket by Global Alliance member countries, aiming at enhancing country-level outcomes.

Commits to collaborate with other Alliance members to develop innovative solutions and share good practices in learning and knowledge exchange and dissemination on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, data collection and analysis, including by leveraging existing local, national, and international knowledge networks, coalitions, communities and other fora related to aspects relevant to the fight against hunger and poverty.

[1] Informs its capacity and readiness to support Alliance member governments in implementing, improving or scaling-up the following policy instrument types, referenced in the Global Alliance's basket of policy instruments:

[2] Informs and commits to implementing the following actions, programmes, and other activities in support of the Global Alliance's objectives:

1) **Programme one: Social Protection:** Shock Responsive Social Protection, social protection safety-nets programs based on vulnerability and needs criteria's. This includes legislative frameworks, systems, services such as emergency cash-based transfers and digital tools including social registry. The Government of Armenia can provide knowledge support for embedding food security and shock responsive elements

into national social protection schemes: Legislative acts, Institutional set up, implementation arrangements.

2) **Programme two: Support to small holder farmers:** Support to livelihood diversification and integrated programmes for economic inclusion. The Government of Armenia has various subsidy and support programmes and mechanisms to enhance local food security and systems. The Government of Armenia also has a food security strategy which includes the food system approach.

3) **Programme three: School Meals:** The Government is providing healthy and nutritious meals to children in grade 0-4 and are using schools as delivery platforms to introduce change in local and national food systems, inclusive of green circular economy models and for food security, biodiversity and nutrition education. The Government of Armenia can provide knowledge support for nationalisation of School Meals: Legislative acts, Institutional set up, implementation arrangements, and innovative, sustainable solutions.

4) **Programme four: Integrated Programmes:** Climate resilience Climate resilient agricultural technologies to enhance farmers agricultural income, food security, productivity increases and climate adaptive programmes. The Government of Armenia has various support programmes to promote climate resilient agricultural and environmental and biodiversity friendly practises and enhance resilience against climate change. This also includes significant investments in irrigation and productive assets in rural areas and facilitated access to rural finance and inputs.

General acknowledgments

Recognizes the possibility to, including through the mechanisms available to Global Alliance members, coordinate, partner with and/or seek support from the Global Alliance's other members, within their respective capacities, availability, and fields of activity, to carry out the present commitments with greater effectiveness.

While recognizing that the above commitments are voluntary and non-legally binding, being subject to and carried out under its own capacities, regulations, priorities, and modalities, as well as to the availability of appropriate resourcing, *strives* to seriously consider, as appropriate, and according to its own legal frameworks and governance process, to review its procedures and priorities as found necessary to better deliver on the present commitments, enhance synergies and joint efforts with other entities and initiatives, and improve outcomes on the collective fight against hunger and poverty.