

The State of Palestine

Scene-Setting Letter of Palestine for the Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

The State of Palestine affirms that the ongoing Israeli occupation exacerbates poverty, food insecurity, and economic crises for the Palestinian people. As the occupying power, Israel systematically hinders Palestinian development and livelihoods through policies such as the confiscation of Palestinian tax revenues, a key source of government spending, thereby limiting the Palestinian government's ability to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. Additionally, daily incursions in the West Bank and East Jerusalem continue, with demolitions of Palestinian buildings and businesses, restrictions on access to agricultural land, and constraints on freedom of movement. These policies are intensified by illegal settlement expansion in occupied territories, where natural resources are seized for the benefit of settlements, depriving Palestinians of their resources. This situation is further worsened by frequent and arbitrary Israeli closures in various areas of the West Bank, preventing access to food, medical supplies, and essential economic activities. Moreover, the mass detention of Palestinians reduces the labor force, harms productivity, increases the suffering of families losing their primary breadwinners, and heightens poverty levels.

In the Gaza Strip, the situation is even more critical. Israel has imposed a blockade on the area for nearly 17 years, severely restricting the movement of goods, food, and people, which has paralyzed Gaza's economy and led to chronic shortages of essential necessities. Recently, this blockade has escalated to a level of genocide, with tools of collective starvation and widespread destruction, placing millions of Palestinians in Gaza in a humanitarian catastrophe.

The State of Palestine calls on all members of the international community to take urgent and sustained action to pressure Israel, the occupying power, to end these practices. It is essential for partner organizations and countries to work collectively to put a stop to these policies and restore Palestinians' rights to access food, healthcare, and economic opportunities. Ending these restrictions and injustices is critical to ensuring the welfare, health, and dignity of the Palestinian people and to advancing global goals to eradicate hunger and poverty in Palestine.

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Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. The State of Palestine 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 State of Palestine:

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 State of Palestine, through its Ministry of Social Development, 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 sub-national level policies and programmes.

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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.

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.

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.