

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. The Republic of Korea 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 Korea:

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.

Policy cooperation and support commitments

The Republic of Korea:

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.

Drawing on its successful experience in agricultural innovation, poverty eradication, and economic development, the Republic of Korea remains committed to supporting rural development, increasing residents' income, fostering sustainable agriculture in partner countries, and achieving food security.

① Specifically, informs and commits to implementing the following program which is related to lessons-learned and international cooperation in support of the Global Alliance's objectives:

Poverty Reduction through Rural Development Campaign

Recognizing that nearly half of the world's population resides in agricultural areas, with 80% of these households living in poverty despite their crucial role in food supply, the Republic of Korea continues to implement the number of rural development projects including Saemaul Undong projects, drawing inspiration from the Republic of Korea's successful rural development policy (Saemaul Undong) in the 1970s. The Poverty Reduction campaign, as one of the rural development programmes, aims to address the challenge of poverty and hunger through a comprehensive, community-driven approach.

The program is an initiative designed to empower rural people, especially women and youth in the agricultural sectors of partner developing countries. With the strong ownership and commitment of partner governments at its core, this program ensures that initiatives align with national priorities and receive the necessary support for long-

term success. Specifically, this program focuses on four main areas: community empowerment, an ownership-based approach, a sequential methodology, and innovative solutions.

Central to this program is community empowerment; rural people actively design and implement projects tailored to their unique cultural, geographical, and economic contexts, ensuring relevance and sustainability. Equally important is the ownership by the governments of partner countries; strong government commitment ensures that initiatives align with national priorities and receive necessary support for long-term success. The sequential approach involves securing support from top-level officials, developing master plans with clear objectives, emphasizing capacity building through training local officials and community leaders, creating model communities for broader application, and assisting in formulating supportive rural development policies. Innovative solutions include integrating digital education to bridge the digital divide and incorporating climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies into development models.

② Pledges continued support for the international community's fight to address poverty, hunger, and food insecurity, with its share standing at USD 123 million in 2024, contributing to poverty eradication (SDG 1) and zero hunger (SDG 2), while also promoting rural employment (SDG 8) and climate resilience (SDG 13).

- especially in the area of developing rice value chain, implementing smart food value chain management project, establishing climate resilient food security for smallholders, engaging youth smallholder farmers through agri-tech, establishing food security information network and other activities to increase food productivity and secure food security.

③ Commits to continue the "K-Ricebelt Project" through which the Republic of Korea is providing USD 17 million in 2024 to develop high-yield rice varieties and establish rice production complexes, thereby increasing agricultural productivity in Africa.

④ Pledges continued food aid through World Food Programme (WFP). The Republic of Korea has already doubled the amount of food aid from 50,000 tons in 2023 to 100,000 tons in 2024.

Financial support commitments

The Republic of Korea:

Commits to make its best efforts to improve the destination, allocation and alignment of the use of its resources, including through coordination and cooperation facilitated by the Global Alliance, to support member countries to implement, improve, or scale-up the implementation of select programmes or policy instruments in the Alliance's reference basket to drive the fight against hunger and poverty, in line with sustainable country-led financing and implementation strategies.

Announces a **new and additional sum of USD 10 million**, to be fully disbursed by 2024, to provide international development support applicable to the fight against hunger and poverty and advancing SDGs 1 and 2 in Africa through World Food Programme (WFP). Specifically,

- By funding USD 5 million to WFP's 'Emergency Food Assistance to Vulnerable Population affected by the Prolonged Dry Spell in Northern Ghana' project, it is expected to enhance food security of vulnerable households and to achieve immediate results in terms of improved food security and nutrition through the provision of cash-based transfers targeting the most vulnerable households impacted by the dry spell.
- By funding another USD 5 million to WFP's 'Building Climate Resilience for Food Security in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) of Kenya' project, it is expected to enhance the food security and climate resilience of smallholder farmers, livestock holders, and marginalized groups, including women and youth, living in fragile, climate and conflict-affected settings in the ASALs of Kenya.

Knowledge support commitments

The Republic of Korea:

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.

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.