Intervention by Minister Wellington Dias at the Opening of the Council of Champions of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

Suggested intervention for the Minister:

Thank you very much, State Secretary Eva Granados, for giving me the floor.

Mr. President of the Republic,

Madam First Lady,

Ministers Mauro Vieira and Paulo Teixeira,

Champions of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty,

Ambassador Carla Carneiro, through whom I also greet the other Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives present,

Mr. José Graziano da Silva, former Director-General of FAO and a champion of the food security cause;

Representatives of the other Members of the Global Alliance who are with us in this room and also remotely,

Mr. Renato Godinho, coordinator of the Alliance's Transition Team, through whom I greet the Support Mechanism teams and the Transition Team present here,

Like my colleague in steering this Council, Eva Granados, I welcome President Lula and thank him, on behalf of this Council, for the honor of taking part in our second regular meeting and for honoring the inauguration of the operations of the Support Mechanism of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty. Since the Alliance's launch at the G20 Summit ten months ago, under your vision and leadership, Mr. President, we have worked to make it a reality. Today, at the opening of this session, we are reviewing the results of this work and charting next steps.

I would like to thank the extraordinary Transition Support Team that Your Excellency established within the Brazilian government, which has sustained us over these ten months—a task force comprising my Ministry, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, IPEA, the Presidency of the Republic, the Ministry of Finance, and other institutions, working together for our common cause. I also thank the goodwill support given to this team by countries and institutions such as the United Kingdom, the World Bank, FAO, the World Food Programme, UNRISD, and others.

Leading that team is the name that Brazil will propose today for this Council to consider appointing as head of the Alliance's Secretariat for the coming years: Ambassador Renato Domith Godinho, coordinator of the Transition Team. From the outset, he—like the entire team—has done his utmost to help materialize your vision, Mr. President.

Over these ten months, we have built on the powerful commitments made with the Alliance last November by 41 national governments, 13 public international organizations and financial institutions, and 19 philanthropic and non-profit entities to:

- reach 500 million people with cash transfers by 2030;

- expand high-quality school meals to an additional 150 million children;

- serve 200 million women and children aged 0 to 6 with maternal and early childhood health; and

- reach 100 million people with socioeconomic inclusion programs, with a focus on women.

As a collective, we are advancing to support countries and organizations in achieving these goals.

In February, we established this Council of Champions to guide and, above all, to act—mobilizing countries and organizations. Under its guidance, we launched the Accelerated Planning Initiative with 14 countries; 9 plans have already been completed. We are now actively working to enable financial and knowledge partnerships for the implementation of these plans, which have already received more than 80 expressions of interest from Alliance members.

We are working to bring water to all schools in Kenya's arid and semi-arid regions; to promote school feeding in Benin and Cambodia, linked to family farming; to equip Haiti with a true national cash transfer program for the poorest; to double the reach of Zambia's income transfer program to 2 million households, adding family support services, nutrition, and training; to launch Africa's largest economic inclusion program in Rwanda and reinforce the Caribbean's largest in the Dominican Republic; to double the productivity of small producers of cattle, poultry, eggs, fish, and honey in Ethiopia; to support the world's fastest expansion of a school feeding program in Indonesia; to reach 13 million children and caregivers in Tanzania with early childhood and maternal services; and to provide Palestine with services, transfers, and childcare, alleviating the country's suffering and strengthening state capacity. Following

these plans, Cuba, Somalia, Lebanon, Peru, and others are preparing to adopt the same approach.

Shortly, Ethiopia's Representative, Ambassador Demitu Hambisa Bonsa, will speak further on this experience, representing the Alliance's National Pillar—the most important one, as it embodies the political will to include the poorest that this Alliance is reinforcing across the world.

The Alliance continues to grow: this week we surpassed 200 members. Today we admitted the Kyrgyz Republic, and on Wednesday the Islamic Republic of Pakistan will formalize its accession. We will be 201 members—105 countries and 96 organizations—each of whom has submitted its Commitment Statement to the Global Alliance.

As Secretary Eva Granados highlighted, in July, in Seville, we presented commitments and proposals for better-integrated international financing in support of combating hunger and poverty, national programs, and family farming, including climate finance. We will continue these discussions here in the Council.

We also developed, in this Council, the foundations of the Belém Declaration on Hunger, Poverty, and Climate Action, which we hope to see adopted by you, Mr. President, and other Heads of State at COP30. The text underscores that the worst impacts of climate change fall on the poorest and most vulnerable, and proposes a just climate transition that protects their rights and strengthens their resilience through programs and mechanisms that uphold human dignity.

We advanced the construction of the Alliance's Policy Basket—a cornerstone of our work, based on shared knowledge and concrete evidence: there are already 51 categories of public policy programs and instruments and 70 examples of national implementation, submitted by members and carefully curated.

We agreed with the State of Qatar and the United Nations to hold the First Leaders' Meeting of the Global Alliance in Doha, on the eve of the Second World Social Development Summit—an occasion to review progress with our more than 200 members, renew political commitment, and secure new financial and knowledge commitments for the implementation of social programs.

We have structured an online platform for communication, information exchange, updates, and news, with regular outreach to all members. And, together with FAO and the valuable contributions of friendly countries such as Norway, Spain, and Portugal, we established the Alliance's Support Mechanism, which we inaugurate today. My account is long because much has already been done. Although the Support Mechanism's permanent team is only now being inaugurated, we did not stand still in the meantime.

Thank you very much!

With that, I invite the Ambassador of Ethiopia, Demitu Hambisa Bonsa, to take the floor to speak on behalf of the countries of the Alliance's National Pillar.