GLOBAL ALLIANCE AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY

Redes da Maré

Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. Redes da Maré 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.

   Redes da Maré:

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:

Knowledge support commitments

Redes da Maré:

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.

Informs and commits to implementing the following actions, programs, and other activities in support of the objectives of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty:

Redes da Maré is a civil society organization that emerged from community mobilization in the 1980s. Its mission is to weave the necessary networks to uphold the rights of the population in Maré, which consists of 15 favelas and is home to over 124,000 people.

The organization is committed to supporting technical training and capacity building through the Casa das Mulheres da Maré,, which stands out for its professional training in gastronomy to foster women's leadership and economic autonomy in Maré. In addition to training hundreds of women, the project directly contributes to food security by spreading knowledge about healthy and sustainable eating.

The organization is dedicated to fighting hunger in the region. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Redes da Maré responded to the urgent needs of 69,000 people facing severe food insecurity. It is currently continuing this effort by providing daily meals to vulnerable families and people experiencing homelessness, in addition to offering social support to help them access other rights. In 2024, data showed that 60% of the families receiving daily meals from Redes da Maré overcame food insecurity.

Redes da Maré also promotes spaces for community mobilization and engagement, such as the creation of community gardens in local health units. These gardens cultivate medicinal plants and strengthen residents' leadership in food and health matters.

The organization maintains continuous and collaborative work with universities and research centers. A key example is the construction of the Bira Carvalho Community Kitchen, supported by the Public Call of the Integrated Health Plan for Favelas, in partnership with Oswaldo Cruz Foundation. Already recognized by the Solidarity Kitchens Program of the Ministry of Development and Social Assistance, Family, and Fight Against Hunger, this facility will serve as a collective space for food distribution, support, and experience-sharing on food and nutritional security, reinforcing the Human Right to Adequate Food.

The Casa das Mulheres da Maré, part of Redes da Maré, is a space for care, training, and mobilization that connects the fight for gender equity with the struggle against hunger in the favelas. In a context of structural food insecurity, women are the ones who ensure survival, even with scarce resources and limited access to healthy food. The lack of data on how hunger specifically affects these women hinders effective public policies. In response, we develop research and methodologies with an intersectional lens—gender, race, and territory—as a strategy of resistance and a basis for structural policy-making. Projects like *Maré de Sabores* demonstrate how gastronomy can foster autonomy, income, and political empowerment. Hunger, as a mechanism of gender and class oppression, demands action from the peripheries. The struggle of the women of Maré is a fight for justice, dignity, and gender equity.

Redes da Maré is committed to producing data and improving knowledge about hunger in the region. Currently, it conducts research on food security in collaboration with the Research Center for Culture and Economy at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ – NuCEC). By combining quantitative data with qualitative approaches, the studies provide

a deeper understanding of how food insecurity connects with Maré's social and economic dynamics.

Additionally, the organization actively participates in decision-making and public policy spaces. It is a member of the Rio de Janeiro Municipal Food Security Council (CONSEA-Rio), helping to foster dialogue with public authorities and ensuring that the needs of the most vulnerable populations are considered in policy development.

Redes da Maré's experience demonstrates that strengthening community networks and investing in knowledge production, income generation, professional training, and food assistance are essential strategies to combat hunger and promote dignity. As such, its actions can serve as a reference for other territories facing similar food insecurity challenges.

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.