

UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)

Statements of Commitment to the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty

General section

1. The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) 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.

UNHCR:

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

UNHCR:

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:

- Access to adequate housing
- Access to basic drinking water and sanitation services, and hygiene facilities
- Access to basic education
- Access to basic health care
- Child and family support/benefits
- Disability benefits
- Emergency cash transfers in fragile and humanitarian contexts
- Emergency food transfer/supply, including humanitarian
- Integrated programmes for climate and shock resilience, including programmes related to anticipatory, adaptive and shock-responsive social protection
- Integrated programmes for socioeconomic inclusion
- Integrated programmes for gender equality and empowerment
- Job placement/intermediation
- Land access, ownership and tenure security
- Maternity protection/benefits
- Support to livelihood diversification
- Training (vocational, life skills, cash for training, entrepreneurship)
- Unconditional cash transfer

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

- In the fulfillment of its mandate to protect, secure, and defend the rights of forcibly displaced and stateless people, UNHCR will continue to support states in responding to emergencies; safeguarding the rights and well-being of forcibly displaced and stateless people; promoting their inclusion and self-reliance; empowering them to determine and build their futures; and pursuing solutions to address the consequences of displacement and statelessness.
- In line with its mandate and its engagement in the Poverty Alleviation Coalition, UNHCR will continue to work with governments, civil society, development actors and the private sector in the implementation of the Graduation Approach methodology, aiming to tackle poverty and extreme poverty among forcibly displaced and stateless people and their host communities. Based on UNHCR Strategic Directions for 2022 to 2026, the Agency can support country members of the Alliance with projects and policies pertaining to the following topics and additional areas of expertise:
 - 1) The safeguard of international protection of forcibly displaced and stateless people, including in the context of mixed movements.

- 2) Accountability to the forcibly displaced and stateless people, especially women and children.
 - 3) Gender-based violence prevention, risk mitigation and response.
 - 4) Resettlement and complementary pathways.
 - 5) Engagement with development partners in response to emergencies and beyond.
 - 6) Response and solutions for internally displaced people.
 - 7) Efforts to end statelessness.
 - 8) Mitigation of the effects of the climate change crisis on displacement.
- Considering the growing numbers of people fleeing persecution, violence and human rights violations, as well as the adverse effects of climate change and disasters, and who will need international protection, and the significant percentage of forcibly displaced and stateless people living in the most climate-vulnerable situations in the world, where – together with their host communities – they lack access to environmentally sustainable resources and resilience to the impacts of climate change, UNHCR commits to support the Alliance member states, together with partners to:
- 1) Effectively protect people fleeing persecution, violence, and human rights violations, as well as the adverse effects of climate change and disasters who need international protection.
 - 2) Increase access for forcibly displaced and stateless people and their hosts to services that promote the rights-based, sustainable use of natural resources and a clean and healthy environment.
 - 3) Improve the physical and economic means for forcibly displaced and stateless people and their hosts to prepare for, withstand, recover from, and be protected from the impacts of climate change.
 - 4) Operate sustainably with systems in place to minimize negative impacts on the environment.

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.