

PART I: COMMITMENT SUMMARY

OCHA commits to the Nutrition Decade

As a convener and global leader in humanitarian response and coordination, OCHA proudly commits to the Decade of Action on Nutrition. Working through its five core functions of coordination, humanitarian financing, policy, advocacy, and information management, OCHA is strategically situated to respond to the call of nutrition, specifically within the humanitarian context.

In line with previous nutritional commitments from former ERC Valerie Amos and OCHA's core functions, OCHA commits to further its work regarding all six Action Areas of the Decade of Action on Nutrition Working Programme in the following ways:

- OCHA will scale up its global advocacy and campaign efforts that strive to make critical situations of acute malnutrition and famine visible to UN leadership, Member States, and the public through the use of common system-wide messages, communication products, informal advocacy outreach activities, campaigns, and networks for joined up activity.
- In situations of acute malnutrition and famine in conflict areas, OCHA will continue to will facilitate access and contribute to collective efforts to enhance protection for affected persons, including advocating for the protection of civilians.
- OCHA will endeavour to secure resources and investments for improved nutrition in humanitarian contexts in a sufficient and timely manner by developing strategic partnerships with key actors and processes in international financing.
- OCHA will reinforce advocacy efforts that promote preparedness partnerships and initiatives and identify opportunities for complementary action, and foster supportive environments that are conducive to resilient food systems.
- OCHA will ensure that nutritional components are included in humanitarian response plans and humanitarian needs overviews, including both short- and long-term plans.
- OCHA commits to playing its part in the humanitarian-development nexus, through the New Way of Working by including nutritional collective outcomes in planning documents.
- All humanitarian coordinators will be fully informed on the importance of nutrition and will have the necessary support for their leadership role in implementing the nutrition agenda. OCHA will facilitate the preparation of interagency guidance.
- As a member of UNSCN, OCHA commits to ensuring that nutrition is sufficiently prioritized in humanitarian emergencies and that the work of humanitarian and development agendas on nutrition is more closely aligned.

For further information, we welcome you to read the full commitment *here*.

PART II: FULL COMMITMENT

OCHA and the Nutrition Decade

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is proud to commit to the Decade of Action on Nutrition. As a convener and global leader in humanitarian response and coordination, OCHA regularly participates in and promotes multisector engagement through coordinating emergency support, hosting and moderating special events, providing platforms for joined-up advocacy, performing need, risk and vulnerability assessments, convening policy and strategic interagency dialogue, providing context-specific trend and gap analysis of humanitarian action, and supporting and collaborating with other agencies.

Through its five core functions of coordination, information management, advocacy, policy, and humanitarian funding, OCHA works towards the following system-wide outcomes:

- Timely, coherent and efficient humanitarian action to meet the needs of affected people.
- Evidence-based and collective situational awareness that informs decisions on humanitarian action
- Powerful advocacy on behalf of crisis-affected people influences relevant actors to ensure effective and principled humanitarian action and to promote respect for international humanitarian, human rights, and refugee law by all parties.
- Policy that drives adaptive, effective and principled humanitarian action
- Sufficient, timely, substantial, predictable and flexible financing that meets the needs of crisis-affected people

Focusing on nutrition, OCHA is currently engaged in coordination, advocacy, mobilization, partnership promotion, and collective action on the ground. This is seen through OCHA's efforts and achievements in resource mobilization, system-wide messaging, maintenance of the humanitarian program cycle (HPC), convening fora (including a side event at the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit), collective action on the ground by strengthening HC leadership on nutrition, and in giving voice to the humanitarian agenda on the UN Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN).

OCHA commits to maintaining its voice on UNSCN to continue promoting the humanitarian agenda, translating commitments into action on the ground, making necessary humanitarian-development linkages, and breaking down silos. OCHA stands ready to continue facilitating the delivery of quality support for nutrition in the humanitarian context.

Malnutrition in emergency situations is growing and it is critical that the UN system responds in a manner that is joined up, forward looking, and sustainable. Today's need for the Decade of Action on Nutrition is reflected by the unprecedented rates of malnutrition and food insecurity faced by hundreds of millions of people across the globe. A glaring example is in the case of the Four Famines, seen in Yemen, Nigeria, South Sudan and Somalia. These evolving humanitarian situations demand urgent implementation of a global nutrition agenda that incorporates both short- and long-term plans which are coherent and multi-sectoral. Conflict is a major underlying cause of food crises, which can lead to famine. The failure of States and parties to the conflict to uphold their responsibilities under the applicable legal frameworks has a direct impact on the right to food.

In relation to the six action areas detailed in the Work Programme of the Nutrition Decade, OCHA commits to further its work in multisector engagement in the following ways:

- OCHA will scale up its global advocacy and campaign efforts that strive to make critical situations of acute malnutrition and famine visible to UN leadership, Member States, and the public through the use of common system-wide messages, communication products, informal advocacy outreach activities, campaigns, and networks for joined up activity. In situations of acute malnutrition and famine in conflict areas, OCHA will continue to facilitate access and contribute to collective efforts to enhance protection for affected persons, including advocating for the protection of civilians.
- OCHA will continue to secure resources and investments for improved nutrition in humanitarian contexts in a sufficient and timely manner by developing strategic partnerships with key actors and processes in international financing.
- OCHA will reinforce advocacy efforts that promote preparedness partnerships and initiatives, identify opportunities for complementary action and foster supportive environments that are conducive to resilient food systems.
- OCHA will ensure that nutritional components are included in humanitarian response plans and humanitarian needs overviews, including both short- and long-term plans.
- OCHA welcomes the prioritisation of a strong humanitarian-development nexus in the SG's vision for the future of the UN system and will embrace its leadership role in the forthcoming Steering Committee on this issue as proposed by the SG. OCHA will also continue to support field colleagues and partners in realizing this vision on the ground. OCHA will support the New Way of Working, including through collective outcomes on nutrition where appropriate.
- All humanitarian coordinators will be fully informed on the importance of nutrition and will have the necessary support for their leadership role in implementing the nutrition agenda. OCHA will facilitate the preparation of interagency guidance.
- As a member of UNSCN, OCHA commits to ensuring that nutrition is sufficiently prioritized in humanitarian emergencies and that the work of humanitarian and development agendas on nutrition is more closely aligned.

In summary, OCHA will ensure that the guiding principles of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition are reflected in the humanitarian programme cycle (HPC), including wherever relevant, the six action areas of the work programme.