

Documentation of the Work of the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) NMUN Simulation***



**National Model United Nations
Washington, DC
8 – 10 November 2024**

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United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Committee Staff

Director	Kaylyn Atkins
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Agenda

1. Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children
2. Protecting Children with Disabilities against Discrimination

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
UNICEF/1/1	Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children	23 in favor, 5 against, 8 abstentions
UNICEF/1/2	Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children	29 in favor, 2 against, 5 abstentions
UNICEF/1/3	Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children	27 in favor, 1 against, 8 abstentions
UNICEF/1/4	Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children	26 in favor, 4 against, 6 abstentions
UNICEF/1/5	Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children	19 in favor, 10 against, 7 abstentions
UNICEF/1/6	Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children	29 in favor, 1 against, 6 abstentions

Summary Report

The United Nations Children's Fund held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

1. Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children
2. Protecting Children with Disabilities against Discrimination

The session was attended by representatives of 36 Member States and 0 Observers.

On Friday, the committee adopted the agenda of topic 1 and then topic 2, beginning a discussion on "Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children." By Saturday afternoon, the Dais had received a total of 7 proposals covering a wide range of subtopics, from increased protection for humanitarian aid staff and the promotion of alternative food sources to the strengthening of healthcare infrastructure and the creation of education workshops on malnutrition. The tone of the committee was collaborative, relatively diplomatic, and productive. Delegates stayed on topic and diligently worked to produce quality working papers.

On Sunday, 6 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, none of which had any amendments. The committee adopted 6 resolutions following voting procedure, all of which were adopted by a recorded vote. The resolutions covered a wide array of issues, such as promoting alternative food sources, implementing data-sharing systems, improving humanitarian aid equipment, establishing educational workshops, and enacting social protection programs.



Code: UNICEF/1/1

Committee: United Nations Children's Fund

Topic: Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children

The United Nations Children's Fund,

Recognizing the importance of Rule 31 of the *Geneva Conventions* (1949), which states humanitarian relief personnel must be respected and protected,

Deeply disturbed by the fact that 280 humanitarian workers were killed in 2023, the deadliest year on record,

Expressing concern that while humanitarian aid workers are responsible for delivering food and supplements to children in armed conflict, their protection is overlooked, for example, the protective material provided to the humanitarian workers according to Fiber Brokers International Kevlar, the most commonly used material in the construction of protective equipment, begins degrading after 5 years and loses functionality,

Considering the lack of prioritization given to the armed conflict status of a country and the occurrence of natural disasters when allocating resources from the Core Resources for Results (RR) fund, the only fund that allows the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to judge what direct programmes and countries need to be allocated more resources by analyzing each country's under-five mortality rate, gross national income per capita, and child population size,

Taking into account that although over 200 million children live in high-intensity war zones and around 30 million face food insecurity due to weather extremes, only 7% of the RR fund went to the the Emergency Programme Fund in 2023, the only programme in UNICEF that responds to sudden onset emergencies,

Noting also the World Health Organization (WHO) and the work done to aid universal health coverage, and strengthen proper healthcare infrastructure with distribution channels of humanitarian aid in areas where malnutrition is most severe due to regional-based natural disasters,

Concerned about the fact that according to the 2024 Report of the Secretary-General titled "Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel" (A/79/149), from July 2023 to June 2024, 219 United Nations and 172 humanitarian personnel lost their lives while helping those in need,

1. *Further invites* remaining states to enter a separate declaration to accept the competence of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission to ensure greater safety of humanitarian aid workers as they provide nutrition in isolated and conflict-ridden areas;
2. *Supports* the efforts to improve the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) under the Memorandum of Understanding in the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission (IHFFC), by raising public awareness to garner broader support and pressure states to adhere to international law;
3. *Endorses* the modernization of protective equipment of humanitarian aid volunteers and the compliance of OCHA to offer clear information on the quality of equipment by implementing the VPAM safety rating system used by most European countries;
4. *Proclaims* the need to improve the current criteria UNICEF uses to allocate resources from the RR fund by adding active armed conflict status and climate change vulnerability to the already existing three key allocation criteria;

5. *Calls upon* nations to reunite in a universal conference to emphasize the importance of strengthening healthcare coverage facilitated by non-profit organizations and contributors to advocate strengthening healthcare infrastructure in regions affected by natural disasters, where 45% of child deaths are linked to malnutrition, ensuring the efficient distribution of humanitarian aid;
6. *Encourages* UNICEF to maximize humanitarian resources for those in need by determining when aid levels can be adjusted, through collaboration with local human rights organizations and NGOs, in order to determine when it will be appropriate to retract aid;
7. *Encourages* Member States from impeding on aid distribution channels which could lead to a decline of humanitarian access while addressing severe food insecurity affecting 9.2% of the global population, with a focus on high-risk, disaster-prone areas;
8. *Reaffirms* the importance of Member States to intervene on safe passages for civilians out of zones of conflict by increasing their investments to augment the number of safe passages and, by doing that, to intensify the level of the volunteers' protection that are in action to protect these vulnerable individuals.



Code: UNICEF/1/2

Committee: United Nations Children's Fund

Topic: Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children

The United Nations Children's Fund,

Expressing concern for the lack of funding for prenatal education and inefficient promotion of breastfeeding,

Noting with deep concern that malnutrition in mothers can lead to undernourishment in newborns,

Further noting the undernourishment in newborns and children often results in several developmental issues including cognitive skills resulting in disabilities, which in the long term can lead to discrimination,

Acknowledging the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) of 2014 in which more than 170 governments all agreed to work on developing new strategies to reduce and eliminate malnutrition,

Recognizing the statistic provided by the World Health Organization (WHO) that about 1.5 billion people around the world do not have access to proper sanitation,

Expressing deep concern about the negative impact of poor sanitation on this issue due to the lack of soap in rural areas, especially since the issue of open defecation causes the growth of bacteria in children's intestinal system, thus leading to several children suffering from chronic diarrhea and losing essential nutrients, which then gives rise to malnutrition,

Stressing that while all pregnant women require medical attention, about 50% of women in developing countries do not receive the nutrition and healthcare necessary to maintain a healthy pregnancy and foster infant success,

Emphasizing the importance of local governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in targeting disadvantaged areas to provide them with the nutritional supplements, educational programs, medical training, and screening programs needed to build sustainable food practices,

Considering that while women have a 52.7% anemia rate and a 15.1% obesity rate as a product of malnutrition, it is harder to treat them due to social stigmas, resource misallocation, or a lack of resources altogether,

Bearing in mind that rural populations are more vulnerable to malnutrition because they are more likely to reside in food deserts and lack reliable transportation,

Fully aware that rural populations have significant gaps in data; there is a concern for the lack of knowledge present involving sustainable foods and accessibility for struggling mothers,

Recognizing the roughly 26 million refugees, internally displaced people, and stateless populations affected negatively by malnutrition, and that the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), although currently providing aid to refugees, does lack support and funding to be efficient,

Considering the severity of the 22% of refugees, internally displaced, and stateless populations that face malnutrition due to the current state of these refugee camps; there is an inconsistent supply of food, poor sanitary conditions, and limited access to clean water, all of these factors contribute to malnutrition and undernutrition,

Fully aware of the inconsistent supply of food, clean water, and improper sanitary conditions for refugees culminating in malnutrition and undernutrition; women and children suffer from malnutrition that results in severe vitamin deficiencies which can hinder growth and development for children, and anemia in mothers which can cause permanent disabilities for an unborn child,

Additionally acknowledging that refugees in camps face issues of undernutrition due to similar deficiencies as other refugees, internally displaced, and stateless populations, where women and children are at risk for malnutrition and undernutrition due to inconsistent access to food, safe drinking water, healthcare, and shelter,

1. *Urges* improving quality of prenatal education for developing countries by:
 - a. Collaborating with NGOs such as Caritas Comores that focuses to help women as well as expectant mothers enhance their literacy and cooking skills;
 - b. Promoting breastfeeding campaigns and healthcare training programs similar to the IBFAN informing women of the higher nutritional value of breastfeeding in comparison to formula;
2. *Calls upon* the acknowledgement in the international community that malnourished mothers lead to undernourished newborns and infants by acknowledging international organizations, such as WHO, recognize and declare that malnourishment in mothers is an international issue that affects malnutrition among infants and children;
3. *Concurs* the need for assistance based programs that will aid mothers in making sure they are nourished, so their fetuses, and then newborns, are properly nourished by:
 - a. Building off existing UNICEF programs, such as reinstating the Improving Maternal Nutrition Plan to increasing the delivery of micronutrient services (MMS), encouraging more exposure of the existence of these programs, and reinstating the funding to keep these programs up and running efficiently;
 - b. Emphasizing the importance of mothers' nutrition, and that they have access to food they need, infants and newborns will not suffer from malnutrition; when this malnutrition ceases, it helps to lessen the long-term effects of malnutrition, which is disabilities. With a decrease in disabilities, we also decrease the incidences of discrimination;
4. *Promotes* the implementation of psychological support services for breastfeeding women, by opening mental health facilities in the impacted regions, and having people from the local community facilitate the sessions;
5. *Reiterates its calls* to adopt improved hygienic practices to decrease food contamination and food-borne illnesses for women and children by:
 - a. Implementing water integration systems through the use of filters in order to increase the accessibility to clean water for infants and children in rural areas;
 - b. Supplying instructional sanitary kits through local community centers working with Food Against Hunger;
6. *Fully supports* the training of local populations to produce their own soaps organically through agricultural waste by:
 - a. Creating workshops by local experts to spread more knowledge among rural populations about the importance of handwashing practices;

- b. Providing soap-making equipment to rural populations who cannot afford to purchase soap, allowing them to produce the soap in a sustainable way;
 - c. Training populations on how they can utilize vegetable oils combined with affordable and safe chemicals for rural populations, thus allowing them to wash their hands and improve their overall health;
- 7. *Advises* UNICEF to partner with healthcare professionals and dieticians to support nutritional health for at risk pregnant women through:
 - a. Employing UNICEF community health workers to deliver personalized medical nutritional therapy to promote optimal fetal growth in underserved community;
 - b. Implementing frameworks from initiatives such as canDREAM to integrate evidence-based practices of nutritional counseling that addresses the nutritional needs across healthcare settings, including hospitals, long-term care and community care;
- 8. *Encourages* the coordination with public-private partnerships (PPPs) in order to use the resources and experience of NGOs and private sector organizations to implement efficient malnutrition strategies, with an emphasis on community-based frameworks that focus on health outcomes that impact Member States by:
 - a. Partnering with Food & Friends and Action Against Hunger that establish community based frameworks, sustainable resource accessibility that acknowledge both short-term and long term health outcomes for communities at critical risk;
 - b. Coordinating with multiple agency partners such as the ICAN Foundation to distribute grocery gift cards to food-insecure refugee families;
- 9. *Recommends* that UNICEF reinforce healthcare screening centers and mobile clinics by:
 - a. Providing assistance for mothers suffering from the psychological effects of malnutrition through an expansion of UNICEF's Psychological First Aid program to include hands-on therapeutic care for expecting mothers;
 - b. Expanding UNICEF's Global Breastfeeding Initiative to include education for mothers on how to best prepare nutritious meals for themselves that allow them to breastfeed effectively;
- 10. *Further recommends* that UNICEF's nutrition education initiatives and community partnerships for rural populations be strengthened by:
 - a. Providing advice and technical assistance on logistical and financial planning to Member States on the implementation of local community-based nutrition centers;
 - b. Collaborating with NGOs such as the Indigenous Community Support Fund to develop community kitchens with local farmers that can equip rural and indigenous peoples with more sustainable cooking skills that utilize locally sourced ingredients and thus building food independence to combat malnutrition;
- 11. *Suggests* UNICEF to assist governments and financial decision makers in making budget decisions that prioritize funding for school lunches through its Public Finance for Children Initiative;

12. *Encourages* Member States to address their shortcomings (lack of funding that leads to inconsistent food supply, clean water, proper sanitation, and lack of exposure) in aiding refugees by furthering the support of existing programs like the “Poland Humanitarian Response for Children and Refugee Families Program;” utilizing programs like this one, and expanding the access to them through UNICEF will create relief for refugees;
13. *Urges* countries to emulate the “Poland Humanitarian Response for Children and Refugee Families Program” through the support from UNICEF partners to continue placing children in childcare institutions that provide education and nutritious meals to children and their families, specifically expecting mothers and infant children through the “Poland Humanitarian Response for Children and Refugee Families Program” has been successful, with respect to individual countries, the implications of the Poland Program are subject to change depending on the circumstances of the individual refugee camp;
14. *Invites* refugee institutions to use the International Association for Food Protection strategies in order to use the resources of NGOs to ensure safe and secure proper diets for women and children in refugee camps so they can maintain the proper nutrition necessary to be healthy, whereas, if they do not, they maintain vitamin deficiencies and anemia that will affect their offspring, and children in the long-run with potential deformities, that leads to long-term discrimination;
15. *Introduces* the Food Association Society Service (F.A.S.S.) initiative building off of UNHCR’s efforts to ensure food is provided, creating an international organization that regulates the safety of food in refugee camps by:
 - a. Enforcing global food safety laws, specifically evaluations and quality checks of all food;
 - b. Implementing a food compliance program with respect to refugee conditions;
 - c. Mandating annual food health, safety, and sanitation inspections by F.A.S.S. to ensure all refugee camps stay up to standard;
 - d. Employing a rapid response team to address urgent food issues or outbreaks in vulnerable refugee camps that contain food-borne illnesses.



Code: UNICEF/1/3

Committee: United Nations Children's Fund

Topic: Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children

The United Nations Children's Fund,

Reiterating its commitment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2 (zero hunger) and 5 (gender equality) to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture, while simultaneously promoting gender equality and empowering all women and girls,

Acknowledging the standard of human rights recognized by the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC) (1989), specifically Article 24, which calls for the use of readily available technologies to combat malnutrition,

Recognizing that the World Health Organization (WHO) stated that 149 million children under five were estimated to be stunted (too short for age), 45 million were estimated to be wasted (too thin for height), and 37 million were overweight or living with obesity in its 2022 report titled "Determinants of Undernutrition among Children Admitted to a Pediatric Hospital in Port Sudan, Sudan",

Concerned that 2.8 billion people cannot afford a healthy diet around the world according to the Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) 2023 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) report,

Mindful of the dire consequences of malnutrition on childhood development, with possible effects being physical and learning disabilities,

Emphasizing the importance of a global educational initiative in the areas of agriculture, and nutrition for both agricultural producers and international youth,

Acknowledging that surpluses may also be used to create economic stimulation in communities that have implemented proper agricultural, supply chain, and fishing practices,

Mindful that the majority of youth do not heavily consider the world of agriculture as a viable career path to promote market diversity of food across the globe,

Fully aware that resources regarding nutritional value and the source of foods are critical to educating children on the importance of healthy consumption,

Cognizant of the lack of education regarding the benefits of breastfeeding, as well as the availability of potential alternatives, such as micronutrient supplements in infant foods as demonstrated by the Ying Yang Bao Initiative (YYB),

Deeply conscious that gender inequality and malnutrition are inherently linked as according to UN Women, in nearly two-thirds of countries, women are more likely to report food insecurity than men,

Aware of the need to educate mothers on the importance of prenatal and postnatal care,

Acknowledging the FAO implementation of the Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems Programme, in which FAO learns sustainable farming practices from Indigenous farmers and implements them in current unsustainable farming practices,

Recognizing the importance of expanding social protection programs, such as cash transfers, in-kind transfers, and food assistance to ensure that vulnerable families can consistently access nutritious food,

Highlighting that unhealthy food marketing towards children can leave them vulnerable to obesity, or overweight, which leads to health conditions like diabetes and cardiovascular stress later in life,

1. *Requests* the partnership with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), through joint fund initiatives, Member States, local farmers, and local food suppliers to help with monetary and food donations by:
 - a. Incentivizing families to attend different nutritional education programs;
 - b. Providing mothers, children, and teachers with meals through food trucks that would be available for children not in school, pregnant women, and breastfeeding mothers, as well as school initiatives that provide children and teachers with free meals such as breakfast and lunch options;
2. *Introduces* an expansion of the current United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) initiative Global Education Coalition (GEC) called the Agriculturalists Teach The Youth (ATTY), which creates a separate sector within UNESCO's GEC to promote education in Agriculture, Farming, Fishing, Botany, etc. through:
 - a. Granting simultaneous information on best practices to those in the field to bolster existing production of food globally;
 - b. Creating encouragement of the youth of the globe to increase the number of future producers in these fields, bolstering the market across the globe, and;
 - c. Giving the nations of the world the tools to help themselves by creating a sustainable source of nutrient production in a long-term manner, instead of solely providing food to solve the problem temporarily;
3. *Encourages* the General Assembly to amend areas of the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS III) (1994) by focusing on its management provision which provides surplus fish to nations that rely on marine life for nutrition;
4. *Expresses its belief* in teaching farmers how to grow these crops effectively and sustainably through:
 - a. Developing stronger and more sustainable national supply chains will help reduce food waste that results from inefficiencies, and more food will be able to be delivered to malnourished communities;
 - b. Recommending the usage and expansion of The Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food systems to teach farmers to transform their unsustainable farming practices;
 - c. Collaborating with the World Food Programme (WFP) to facilitate this distribution through trucks that transport the food from the farm to their designated areas;
 - d. Expanding intercontinental and cooperative dairy farming with a focus on smaller-scale farms to promote a focus on milk production;
5. *Proposes* a partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for the establishment of a regional task force to develop flood-resistant agricultural practices and enhance food storage infrastructure, especially in vulnerable flood-prone areas;
6. *Encourages* Member States struggling with malnutrition to implement educational programs that have been previously proven successful by:

- a. Expanding upon the current WFP to incorporate education and weekly manuals from healthcare providers within the meals they provide, such as: what is in the food they are eating, where the food comes from, and why it is healthy for the students, combating both underconsumption and overconsumption for the whole family;
 - b. Recommending public schools stop selling foods that are too high in sugar, fat, and salt, with the option of a tax on these items to reduce consumption while also providing an educational aspect on why those foods are being limited;
 - c. Teaching student farmers the basis of the social-environmental indicators, assessing the agro-ecological nature of the farms and the organic food movement;
7. *Highlights* the helpful nature of mobile apps and databases on nutrition for those of all ages by:
 - a. Promoting further use of the United Nations Children’s Fund’s (UNICEF) *Bebbo* app amongst parents and citizens to be knowledgeable about nutrition in their state, through daily engagement with suggested articles and games that will help children hit key development milestones;
 - b. Encouraging the use of UNICEF’s NutriDash, a database for real-time nutrition tracking, allowing for close monitoring of children with concerning health indicators and enabling timely interventions by organizing biannual visits from UNICEF representatives to marginalized communities to conduct health and nutrition checks on all children under 18;
8. *Further suggests* Member States to organize healthcare conferences and trainings for physicians in high-risk areas on proper nutrition to detect and respond to symptoms early and promptly;
9. *Recommends* that partner programs like the Community Health Roadmap employ local women as community health educators to address the link between gender inequality and childhood malnutrition by:
 - a. Providing culturally sensitive education materials on maternal and child health practices, such as breastfeeding, balanced diets, and essential nutrients and micronutrients;
 - b. Creating economic opportunities for women in turn reduces financial insecurities that often hinder access to nutritious food;
10. *Implementing* breast milk banks in nutrient-deficient areas and facilitating the expansion of the framework of the European Milk Bank Association (EMBA) with the support of Member States;
11. *Encourages* Member States to extrapolate a program analogous to the YYB Initiative in the hopes that its implementation will result in parallel successes by:
 - a. Recognizing the distinct correlation between malnourishment in parents and malnourishment in their children, and how that cycle will continue unless independent sources intercede, as well as continuing the expansion of the Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation (MMS) in order to improve the quality of nutrition care in pregnancy;
 - b. Proposing the utilization of complementary micronutrient supplements that can be implemented during the early developmental years of children;

12. *Asks* international organizations and NGOs to increase Humanitarian Food Security Assistance (HFSA) for areas classified in the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification System (IPC) Phase 3 and Phase 4;
13. *Recommends* the implementation of social protection programs aimed at vulnerable populations, particularly children, to mitigate the effects of food insecurity such as the National Feeding Program which has ensured that nearly half a million children receive free hot meals as school lunches have been proven to help lower the cases of malnutrition in children;
14. *Expresses our concern* about maintaining the 2023 WHO guidelines for protecting children from the harmful impact of food marketing through:
 - a. Raising awareness about daytime television advertising regulations which effectively reduce children's exposure to advertisements of unhealthy food to ensure children's attention is not unfairly targeted;
 - b. Conducting future studies that should monitor forms of content other than television, including online content and product placement, to address the issue holistically.



Code: UNICEF/1/4

Committee: United Nations Children's Fund

Topic: Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children

The United Nations Children's Fund,

Reaffirming Article 7 of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC) (1989), which states that all children have the right to nutritious food and clean water,

Emphasizing Article 9 of the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (CEDAW) (1979), which states that all women will be treated equally,

Fulfilling Article 7 of the *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (CRPD) (2006), which states that all children will be ensured their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Reaffirming Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948), which emphasizes that access to food and health care is a fundamental human right for all individuals, families, and communities,

Emphasizing the United Nations Children's Fund's (UNICEF) reports (2024) that more than 340 million children under five are affected by the detrimental physical and mental effects of malnutrition,

Recalling Article 3 and 8 of UNICEF's Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation (MMS) (2022), which highlights the importance of making supplements such as vitamins easily available for women and children to improve nutritional status,

Deeply alarmed with the 8.5% increase in childhood obesity over the past two decades, the projected jump from 42 million to 70 million overweight children, and how childhood obesity impacts development in various levels,

Keeping in mind the lack of Human Development Reports data gathered by Member States due to insufficient technological and monitoring mechanisms in disadvantaged communities that are suffering from malnutrition consequences,

Acknowledging the existence of UNICEF's Complementary Feeding Bowl innovation within the UNICEF Nutrition Strategy 2020-2030 and encouraging the expansion of its usage into portion-size plates to educate children and adolescents on the aspects and portion requirements of a proper diet to ensure knowledge of the "how" nutritionally beneficial plates (meals) are made,

Noting with approval the World Health Organization (WHO) in the Global Database of Child Growth and Malnutrition (1986) which focuses on gathering and distributing data of child malnutrition relating to their physical capacity resulted by nutrition surveys,

Fully aware of the limitation of the WHO Global Database of Child Growth and Malnutrition in not fully reflecting the data of children with malnutrition due to a lack of disaggregated data and limited research evidence on low-income and rural communities,

Bearing in mind the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) with the pledge of no one left behind and goals applying to all, including the rural communities, and the efforts of the Agency's goals to promote Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 (good health and well-being) and SDG 2 (zero hunger), specifically SDG 2.2 seeking to end malnutrition including in the aspects of stunting and wasting in children years 5 and under by 2025,

Noting with deep concern the life-lasting effects of childhood obesity, such as depression, low self-esteem, eating disorders, impaired cognitive development, heart disease, diabetes, reproductive system complications, and liver disease,

Recalling the Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity (ECHO), established under WHO in 2014 with the purpose to review, build upon, and address gaps in existing mandates and strategies,

Underlining the mental and physical care of infants and children affected by natural disasters,

1. *Encourages* Member States to prioritize the UNICEF's Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation (MMS) to ensure infants and children affected by malnutrition can recover from it and continue progress by promoting the importance of supplements to ensure malnourished children and their families understand the benefits of vitamins;
1. *Calls upon* educational workshops in developing nations to teach about MMS and how it helps the body gain nutrients by partnering with local organizations to spread awareness through community-based workshops;
2. *Calls upon* Member States to collaborate with local NGOs to distribute healthy and nutritional foods to countries in humanitarian crises such as natural disasters to prevent malnourishment by:
 - a. Creating an emergency response team of volunteers to work and help with distribution and care;
 - b. Advocating for mental health support for children with obesity;
3. *Encourages* Member States to further improve databases that collect information on research done on childhood obesity by:
 - a. Partnering with the World Health Organization (WHO) in the Global Database of Child Growth and Malnutrition to:
 - i. Develop further collection practices including reports from Member States reflecting rural communities and expectant mothers to update accurate numbers that focus on addressing malnutrition in communities that are less recorded;
 - ii. Urge Member States to share the results of their research data and improve already existing innovative systems in other nations;
 - b. Asking WHO to reinstate ECHO with its original mandate to report on childhood obesity, discuss solutions with Member States, and eliminate and prevent childhood obesity;
 - c. Expressing its appreciation to SDG 3 and SDG 2, Member States are encouraged to follow other states' guidelines including making policies to improve healthy access to foods and collecting data to monitor the nutritional situation of children;
4. *Encourages* the expansion of the catalog of knowledge in the Complementary Feeding Bowl on the aspects of what a proper diet requires to be nutritionally beneficial targeting children and adolescents in the effort to educate the overall population by:
 - a. Encouraging more interactive demonstrations of the portion-size plates in educational environments, particularly easily accessible documents to increase the frequency of

the provision of portion-size plate assignments to ensure consistency in practical environments;

- b. Developing a framework of interactive panel discussions, digital media, and brochures to disseminate information to communities most impacted by malnutrition.



Code: UNICEF/1/5

Committee: United Nations Children's Fund

Topic: Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children

The United Nations Children's Fund,

Aware of the focus areas of UNICEF one of which is climate change and environment,

Emphasizing the threat of water scarcity has on urban communities considering one in four cities are described as "water-stressed",

Recognizing vertical agriculture as a suitable alternative to horizontal agriculture, given that vertical agriculture uses 95% less water and produces up to 390 times the amount of crops,

Recognizing the 2 billion people on Earth who practice entomophagy, the practice of eating insects,

Reaffirming insects as rich sources of protein, essential vitamins, minerals, and amino acids,

Taking note that insect farming can require up to 90% less land compared to livestock,

Recognizing the existence of seaweed and other sea vegetables in diets and their little negative impact on the environment, nutrient-rich, and quick growth qualities,

Acknowledging the existence of aquaculture and its potential benefits for families with limited or no access to livestock or terrain-based vegetation,

Acknowledging that although more than 70% of the world's surface is covered in water, aquaculture only produces 2% of the world's global food supply,

Reaffirming SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) particularly SDG 2.3 which encourages Member States to double the productivity and incomes of fishers by (offering productive resources and inputs, gathering and spreading knowledge, assistive financial services, and local fish markets),

Reaffirming SDG 14 (Life Below Water), particularly SDG 14.7 which encourages Member States to (increase the economic benefits of Small Island developing states and LDCs through the sustainable management of aquaculture),

Cognizant of the *Paris Agreement's* binding agreement to reduce the impacts of climate change,

Alarmed by the costly effects of the quadrupled increase in natural disaster events due to the climate crisis (2022 had 18 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters totaling over \$165 billion, making it the third most costly year on record, behind 2017 and 2005),

Acknowledging an increase of hungry people from 691 to 783 million people despite the adequacy of present-day food production,

Recognizing the importance of communication between children and farmers as farmers serve as the main source for nutritional goods and the nutritional demand present in children causes dependency for those nutritional goods, especially in times of crisis and natural disasters,

Recognizing the global 21% loss of agricultural production as impacted by climate change and the importance of establishing facilities and technology for the maintenance, preservation, and overall health of cultivating agriculture,

Reaffirming the cruciality of arable land and its significance in cultivating crops and maintaining a diverse and nutritious diet,

Bearing in mind arable land and its sensitivities in which the balance of what makes arable land viable, which requires a delicate balance of nutritious factors, temperatures, water intake, and water type to maintain its viability that can be easily disrupted,

Aware that natural disasters are a repercussion of climate change with increasing severity and intensity of damage examples such as Hurricane Milton and its death toll of 35 victims with damages costing more than \$85 billion,

Noting further the arable land deficit due to the destruction of viable land in severe disasters resulting in worsened food insecurity crisis,

Bearing in mind the consequences of a lack of resources to the public that drive the deeply inherent human desire to survive by any means necessary,

Considering the possible roots of where conflict can start, especially in situations of overpopulation, the lack of food, shelter, and resources,

Noting feelings of intimidation from asylum seekers (i.e. feelings of anxiety over potential vandalism for example the Ukrainian citizen response to constant shelling from the Russian Army),

1. *Recommends* the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) enlists NGOs, such as upfarming, to assist in the construction of vertical agriculture structures especially in countries with limited water reserves and limited viable space;
2. *Encourages* Member States to pursue educational discussion, research, and collaborative expansion of alternative agricultural, aquacultural, and food production facilities;
3. *Encourages* the advancement and implementation of insect farms by informing children and their families of:
 - a. Already popular edible insects such as cicadas, crickets, mealworms, and scorpions;
 - b. The ecological, economic, and physical benefits by minimizing land for farming, carbon emissions, food costs, and supplementing iron, proteins, and other valuable nutrients;
4. *Encourages* children and families to advocate for seaweed farms by drawing attention to the smaller space necessary and larger resource output compared to other plant farms;
5. *Recommends* children and families with access to saltwater or freshwater reserves yet no access to land for livestock purposes to develop and learn about aquaculture practices cultivating various fish, shellfish, algae, seaweed, clams, mussels, mollusks;
6. *Calls upon*s Member States to assist in pushing the influence aquaculture has on the global food supply up from 2% to at least 5% in accordance with SDG 2.3 and SDG 14.7;
7. *Approves* of informing communities of flood-resistant agricultural practices and enhanced food storage infrastructure, especially in vulnerable flood-prone areas;
8. *Further recommends* Member States take initiatives to monitor carbon emission levels to regulate food production by:
 - a. Seeking sustainable practices such as utilizing drones when delivering humanitarian aid to reduce CO2 emissions;
 - b. Developing research to monitor pollution and CO2 emissions;

- c. Promote political initiatives to protect food and other sources of nutrition;
9. *Also urges* Member States to stimulate policy framework as well as technological solutions to protect arable land from environmental impacts and conflicts for the purpose of preventing disruption in food production and supply by:
- a. Approving agricultural protection zoning (APZ) to designate land for agricultural purposes to guarantee available land for food production;
 - b. Recommending Purchases of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) programs as another alternative to preserve agriculture;
 - c. Recognizing the benefits of variable rate, precision irrigation, and auto guidance as important sources of inspiration for managing agricultural resources to produce food during environmental crises or conflicts;
10. *Encourages* Member States to initiate programs through collaboration with agricultural committees or NGOs that will reserve food and nutrients for children and infants to guarantee a food supply during low agricultural production or overconsumption such as Feeding America, an NGO that reduces wasteful food consumption by redirecting leftover produce to areas experiencing food insecurity;
11. *Strongly advises* Member States to develop close relationships between farmers and children through communal engagement such as the LEAP Kids Bucks Program, an initiative that allows children to interact with vendors or farmers and learn about nutrition, in order to increase accessibility to food and nutritional goods for children and infants.



Code: UNICEF/1/6

Committee: United Nations Children's Fund

Topic: Addressing the Impact of Malnutrition on Infants and Children

The United Nations Children's Fund,

Bearing in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) (1948),

Affirming the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition (1974),

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (1989), specifically Article 24, which guarantees every child the right to the highest attainable standard of health,

Mindful of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda), especially regarding Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 (zero hunger), SDG 2.2 (end all forms of malnutrition), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 9 (industry, innovation, and infrastructure), and SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production),

Alarmed by the inefficient progress towards the 2025 World Health Assembly (WHA) nutritional goals and the 2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals,

*Noting with deep concern that 181 million children under the age of five live in conditions of severe food poverty, with up to a 50% higher likelihood of experiencing acute malnutrition, a potentially life-threatening form of malnutrition, as reported in UNICEF's report *Child Food Poverty: Nutrition Deprivation in Early Childhood*,*

Deeply alarmed that in places of conflict, there are double the rates of malnutrition for children and infants than in peaceful environments,

Recognizing the high rate at which rural communities are disproportionately affected by malnutrition, in which, according to the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC), 12.1% of rural households are food insecure compared to 10.3% of urban households,

Acknowledging the 3% cost increase of nutritious foods in 2024, as well as the 6.9% cost increase in 2023 according to the World Bank and its impact on Member States facing high rates of infant and child malnutrition,

Expressing concern about the reduction of the World Food Programme (WFP) funding, which resulted in a reduction of food, cash, and nutrition assistance by 50% in many Member State operations, threatening the stability and well-being of vulnerable populations, especially children,

Confident of the improvement in access to food to achieve long-term food security for both rural and Indigenous communities,

Emphasizing the need for sustainable agricultural practices to be developed to ensure long-term security for children and infants,

*Noting the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) *Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food's* guidelines to provide adequate levels of food and nutrition for the whole population of Member States,*

Convinced of the importance of providing local, healthy, and sustainable food suitable for mothers and their children,

Fully believing there is a need for all public school children to be adequately nourished,

Appreciating General Assembly resolution 78/198 on “The Right to Food,” the Secretary-General report 75/8 on the “Necessity of ending the economic, commercial, and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba,” which emphasizes the importance of ensuring adequate food access to all Members States, including conflict zones,

Keeping in mind the struggles of developing Member States in obtaining food reserves due to difficulties in importing food supplies that make it challenging to achieve the mitigation of children's malnutrition,

Taking into account the international trade and exchange of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RTUF) and micronutrient supplements for wasting and stunting children,

Aware of the actions and incentives created by the Joint Malnutrition Estimates (JME), created by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Bank, and the World Health Organization (WHO) to investigate and research the causes and results of child malnutrition along with expanding their World Health Survey,

Having examined UNICEF's *Digital Health to Support Primary Health Care in Emergencies and Humanitarian Settings* regarding the use of digital tools to support healthcare operations in regions of limited access to these technologies,

Considering the collaborations that the UN has made over the years with medical Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), like Doctors Without Borders (MSF), such as the Ebola outbreak in West Africa (2014-2016) or the nutritional emergency in Somalia (2011),

1. *Reminds* the international community to implement and connect SDG 2, SDG 2.2, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 9, and SDG 12 in current and future policy-making regarding child nutrition through effective implementation strategies and standardization of food quality and nutrition values;
2. *Encourages* the application of drought-resistant and drought-tolerant crops in highly affected, arid, and infertile areas created by climate change and conflict;
3. *Recommends* the applicable partnerships between Member States with severe to acute child malnutrition with NGOs towards the funding and implementation of proper nutritional habits on the ground of food distribution, with a focus on regions with post-natural disasters and a lack of fertile lands and to promote/create social accommodations and protections within active combat zones;
4. *Endorses* the attention and implementation of calculations and assessment of seasonal factors, such as environmental conditions, towards the child malnutrition estimates of the JME in the goals of reaching the 2025 WHA global nutrition targets;
5. *Suggests* Member States utilize accessible resources provided by the UN such as the “Scaling Up Nutrition(SUN) Movement” in the *UN Nutrition Strategy 2022-2030* to educate farmers and ranchers about sustainable agricultural practices like crop rotations, integrated pest management, soil conservation, and water conservation practices to ensure long-term adequate food supply;
6. *Promotes* local production of nutritious food that is processed and sold locally and regionally, thus increasing the incomes of small-scale food producers and expanding access to healthy food by:
 - a. Establishing and updating outdated food safety regulations;

- b. Coordinating with NGOs such as Indigenous Path Finder service to invest in the infrastructure of community gardens to promote sustainable sources of fresh produce;
7. *Supports* Member States incorporating more of a market presence for smallholder farmers with public-private partnerships (PPPs) by:
 - a. Promoting more prominent companies that use out-grower schemes such as sourcing their produce from smallholder farmers, creating a stable resource in rural communities;
 - b. Advising rural communities to develop local organizations of farmers to ensure no exploitation;
8. *Also recommends* that Member States improve exchanges, enhancing importing and exporting, especially focused on compensating for the lack of nutrients in some regions by providing them from areas that have an ample supply of them, allowing every Member State to receive external food supplies;
9. *Expresses its hope* for Member States to collect data by working alongside NGOs such as Amnesty International, to find information about vulnerable populations such as rural communities, refugees, and Indigenous populations to monitor their accessibility level to food resources;
10. *Endorses* the expansion of collaboration between UNICEF and the WHO to expand and build upon already effective nutritional programs, such as Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN), by suggesting more partnerships between least developed countries (LDCs) and nutritionally secure countries to focus on developing strategies that improve food production and security, as well as encourage well-established institutions, like the Institute for the Advancement of Food and Nutrition Sciences (IAFNS), to conduct more extensive research on various nutrients, lifestyle behaviors, environmental influences, and biological factors regarding nourishment that impact various LDCs;
11. *Trusts* Member States to enhance collaboration with other Member States to set and achieve the global goal of eliminating children's malnutrition by sharing research and studies using already existing conventions like the SUN movement, "Global Nutrition Report" (GNR), which UNICEF is the lead partner of, and the Nutrition for Growth Summit (N4G) on good nutrition habits and early signs of malnutrition-related diseases;
12. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance digital tools such as wearable devices to track, monitor, and collect real-time data on children's health using photodiodes systems that use electrical currents or optical heart sensors collected by humanitarian aid workers in each Member State or use programs such as the upSCALE platform, Babyl digital service provider, or Nighedaast as referenced in UNICEF's document *Digital Health to Support Primary Health Care in Emergencies and Humanitarian Settings*;
13. *Strongly advises* Member States to utilize research conducted by the WHO regarding formula milk advertising and its effects on mothers, including their decisions on what they feed their children, increasing regulation on marketing of early childhood products such as infant formula and baby formula through each member states established food safety committee to allow parents to make proper choices without incomplete statistics and false claims impacting that decision making;
14. *Calls upon* a comprehensive re-evaluation of the existing Child Nutrition Fund (CNF), led by UNICEF and WFP in collaboration with the World Bank, to raise its capacity for funding and impact in a long-term sustainable manner, particularly for:

- a. Increasing contributions and commitments by:
 - i. Encouraging Member States to make regular, GDP-proportional contributions and foreign policy-aligned contributions that stabilize funding;
 - ii. Engaging private sector partners and international foundations in supporting multi-year funding of activities in line with the CNF's objectives;
 - b. Scaling up partnerships with existing food security initiatives to achieve maximum coverage and impact;
 - c. Developing a clear Crisis Response Mechanism under the CNF, managed by the WFP to appease emergency needs for acute malnutrition without draining resources from long-term programs and to provide timely and effective targeted support for regions affected by conflict and/or natural disasters;
 - d. Implementing transparent reporting and impact assessments provided by UNICEF and WFP to ECOSOC every six months, including a detailed analysis of the allocation of funds disbursed, measurable impacts related to child malnutrition rates, and recommendations for further improvements in the structure and effectiveness of the CNF;
15. *Calls* Member States to provide insight and consider allocating free meal programs for public school institutions by:
- a. Encouraging the awareness of The School Meals Coalition, which offers nutrition through school systems, benefiting the child's health and learning outcomes, and advertising in borders as needed;
 - b. Aiming to focus primarily on providing free meals to geographically lower-income public institutions and eventually including all public school institutions;
16. *Further invites* national governments to survey balanced diets in school lunches in order to oversee nutritional health by:
- a. Suggesting Member States conduct a yearly national health survey overseen by the WHO, expanding WHO's World Health Survey (WHS) previously done between 2002-2004, to periodically collect data on people's nourishment by:
 - i. Creating a reporting system for children who display signs of malnourishment every 6 months;
 - ii. Developing yearly educational assessments to examine children's understanding of good nutritional habits;
 - b. Encouraging healthcare institutions to conduct bi-yearly studies on malnutrition, innovative agricultural techniques, and food fortification strategies;
17. *Invites* Member States with a significant number of trained medical personnel to collaborate with NGOs, such as the International Medical Corps (IMC) and Doctors Without Borders (MSF), to form partnerships aimed at providing doctors and nutritionists to assist Member States in addressing and preventing the effects of child malnutrition, with a particular focus of making the UNICEF's Executive Board responsible for overseeing the allocation of personnel and supplies of healthcare resources sent by Member States.