

September 27, 2022

Readout of Nutrition CEO Council Participation in Opening of the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Members of the Nutrition CEO Council joined the global community to elevate the continued need for commitments to food and nutrition security at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) the week of September 19th in New York, NY.

On September 20th, in response to the growing food security crisis, members of the Nutrition CEO Council joined the Global Food Security Summit co-chaired by the European Union, the African Union, and Spain, with additional countries co-hosting the event. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken provided remarks in which he acknowledged the severity of the current food security crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate crisis, and conflict, including Russia's war in Ukraine. As the Nutrition CEO Council has highlighted in previous statements, these global challenges are also exacerbating child malnutrition. Secretary Blinken also highlighted the investments that the US government has made in response - over \$6.1 billion in humanitarian assistance and \$2.3 billion in development aid - to combat hunger and strengthen food security, building on the [Roadmap for Global Food Security: A Call to Action](#) that more than 100 countries have signed. He concluded his remarks with the following statement, "But maybe most important, beyond what we say is, of course, what we do – not only for the good of the people around the world bearing the brunt of this crisis, but also because the health, the stability, the wellbeing of our people depends on the food security that we build together." As a follow up to the event, the US Government released the [Food Security Action Report](#), which outlines its continued commitment to international food security. Critically, commitments to address child wasting and strengthen food and nutrition supplies as well as health and nutrition programming were included in the U.S. Food Security Action Report. The Nutrition CEO Council is committed to ensuring the U.S. follows through with these commitments and continues to include nutrition as an essential piece of its response to the global hunger crisis.

On Wednesday, September 21st, members of the Nutrition CEO Council attended "The Child Malnutrition Crisis: Pledging to Save Lives," co-hosted by U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), UNICEF, the Government of Senegal, and the Children's Investment Fund Foundation. The event built off of [USAID's announcement in July](#) where the United States committed to a \$200 million investment to scale up access to treatment, including Ready-to-Use-Therapeutic Food (RUTF) which was the largest commitment that has ever been made to treat children experiencing wasting. During the UNGA event, it was announced that \$280 million was pledged in new funding from donors around the world. This was in response to USAID Administrator Power's call to action from July in which she requested donations from both the public and private sector to address severe malnutrition. The Nutrition CEO Council applauds these investments made by major philanthropies and faith-based organizations as well as UN member states including Ireland, Canada, and the Netherlands.

We applaud the financial and programmatic commitments made at UNGA by governments and philanthropies around the world to address child malnutrition. These commitments, paired with the additional investments from the U.S. government and action by Congress last week to pass the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act, are critical steps to delivering on the global goal of ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition. The Nutrition CEO Council looks forward to continuing to engage with the U.S. government as well as funders and donors to improve food and nutrition security for communities around the world.