



World Food Programme  
Programme Alimentaire Mondial  
Programa Mundial de Alimentos  
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

**World Food Programme**  
**Statement at the 72nd session of the Executive Committee**  
**Delivered by Ms. Annalisa Conte, Director, WFP Geneva Global Office**

Chairperson, High Commissioner, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

WFP and UNHCR have a long-standing, committed partnership. I am therefore delighted to be here today to address the 72nd meeting of the UNHCR Executive Committee.

As we know COVID-19 has exacerbated an already complex situation where millions of people are displaced as a result of conflicts, weather extremes, economic downturn. Given these challenges, it is of paramount importance to join forces and work together to ensure that the acute needs of people of concern are met.

Our collaboration has made great progress on cash-based interventions, through a joint approach to programming and enhanced cooperation in the delivery of cash. This is being pursued in challenging contexts such as Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia. Increased collaboration and engagement have also resulted in greater harmonization of cash assistance, joint procurement of financial services and better systems interoperability at country level, avoiding duplication and minimizing inefficiencies.

Over the last year, thanks to the generous funding from the government of the United States, the UNHCR-WFP Programme Excellence and Targeting Hub has played a major role in supporting the operationalization of joint frameworks on needs assessments, targeting strategies for refugee self-reliance, data sharing and interoperability of systems, on accountability to affected populations across eight countries. The Hub is effectively facilitating the operationalization of policies while documenting these experiences to be expanded across geographies and population groups.

High Commissioner, distinguished delegates,

These are just few examples of the collaboration between our two agencies, on our joint work meant to more effectively and efficiently meet refugee needs, including their economic inclusion. In parallel, WFP continues to devote its efforts to ensure adequate food assistance, in quantity and quality, and to mobilize funds to meet the immediate food needs of refugees.

WFP looks forward to the High-Level Officials Meeting in December, an important crossroad for the Global Refugees Forum. We wish to underscore our commitment and support to UNHCR for this important event.

To conclude, as we continue the effort to meet the urgent as well as the long-term needs of the people of mutual concern, I would like to reiterate WFP's commitment and support to UNHCR.

Thank you.