



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

SAVING
LIVES
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LIVES

World Food Programme
Statement at the 74th session of the Executive Committee
Delivered by Gian Carlo Cirri, WFP Geneva Global Office Director
Palais des Nations Room XIX

Chairperson, High Commissioner, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,

WFP is honored to address the 74th meeting of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Executive Committee and highlight WFP and UNHCR's long-standing and committed partnership.

This year continues to be extremely difficult for those struggling to feed their families: WFP estimates that in 79 of the countries where we operate, 345 million people are facing acute food insecurity, an increase of almost 200 million people since early 2020.

In 2022 15.3 million refugees and asylum seekers (over 60% of the total global refugee) were hosted in 52 countries experiencing food crises.

Last year, WFP provided assistance to 10.4 million refugees, at a total cost of approximately USD 1.5 billion.

Making this already difficult situation worse is a funding crisis that is forcing WFP to scale back life-saving assistance.

WFP's six-month requirement for refugee operations is USD 1.58 billion; against which we have a 72% funding shortfall.

Ration cuts are affecting most refugee operations. The most acute shortfalls are in Lebanon (USD 375 million), Uganda (USD 118 million), Jordan (USD 105 million) and Sudan (USD 99 million).

With reduced assistance, food and nutrition insecurity is expected to increase alongside serious protection risks.

WFP and UNHCR are working together to address these constraints through needs-based targeting and prioritization, improved information sharing, outreach to affected populations, and joint advocacy for diversified funding and political support for sustainable solutions.



The Joint UNHCR WFP Hub supports our efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of addressing the needs of refugees and other forcibly displaced populations.

In view of the upcoming Global Refugee Forum, WFP and UNHCR, together with FAO, are also co-leading a Multistakeholder Pledge on Agriculture, Food Systems & Food Security.

This pledge acknowledges the critical role that agriculture and agricultural livelihoods, food systems strengthening, and food assistance can play in addressing and preventing acute food insecurity and reducing long-term dependency.

It also lays the foundations for refugees and other forcibly displaced populations to better integrate and eventually thrive within their host communities, or, when safe to do so, successfully reintegrate into their communities when they decide to return home.

Chair/High Commissioner,

In closing, please rest assured of WFP's commitment to work with UNHCR, refugee hosting governments, and our donors, to meet the needs of refugees, displaced persons and the communities that host them. WFP also extends its support to UNHCR in the lead up to the Global Refugee Forum.

Thank you.