



November 1, 2022

Honourable *G20 leaders/NAME, SURNAME, MINISTER*

As you prepare for the G20 Summit in Indonesia, the world is facing a global hunger crisis with devastating consequences. At the same time as you are convening to discuss important issues such as post-COVID-19 economic recovery, global health architecture, transition to sustainable energy and digital transformation, almost 50 million people are on the brink of famine in 45 countries.

We welcome initial contributions from the international community in response to warnings over the past 20 months, yet effective collective action is delayed and remains heavily under-resourced.

In addition to the dangers of starvation and death, millions of children face the risk of lifelong setbacks due to malnutrition. Girls are impacted in unique and especially harmful ways, with the prevalence of child sexual exploitation and abuse, along with child, early and forced marriage, rising dramatically as desperate families adopt extreme negative coping mechanisms to survive. Married girls face higher rates of intimate partner violence, of early and unwanted pregnancy, and of school dropouts – often for life – rendering it almost impossible for them to access decent employment. This further entrenches gender inequality, poverty, discrimination and lack of opportunities.

The world is currently failing these girls and affected populations.

Recognising the leadership role that the G20 has historically played in global affairs, we are calling on you to save lives now, to build resilience and to address the immediate impacts as well as the underlying drivers of hunger, including through:

- 1. Releasing emergency funding immediately to save millions of lives.** We have not acted early and now face a worst-case scenario, with a \$22.2 billion shortfall remaining if we are to prevent 50 million people from falling into famine and build resilience. Funds need to be gender-responsive, readily available and immediately provided on a “no regrets” basis to prevent massive loss of life. All donors must contribute their full and fair share now, without diverting resources from meeting other pressing humanitarian needs.
- 2. Prioritising the specific needs of women and children, especially girls.** This includes school feeding to help children and young people stay in school and protection programs to help address child rights violations such as child marriage. We call on you to ensure that all responses to food insecurity are gender-, age- and disability-responsive.
- 3. Increasing your efforts to address the underlying drivers of the hunger crisis,** including conflict, economic shocks and climate change. We must see strengthened political leadership to prevent and end conflicts around the world, enhanced protection for girls and women from economic inequality and shocks, and support to countries experiencing hunger to adapt to and strengthen resilience to ongoing and future climate shocks and stresses, including through climate finance mechanisms.

4. **Strengthening resilience to anticipate, adapt to and transform** in the face of shocks and stresses that contribute to food insecurity. This means increased international and domestic funding for anticipatory action, resilience, adaptation and early warning systems. We call on you to engage girls and youth and to ensure all efforts are gender-transformative, locally-led and child-centred.
5. Ensuring **accountability for your hunger crisis efforts**, including through clearly and transparently reporting on your funding commitments and disbursements, supporting local partners, and consulting with affected populations, including young people, to shape your response.

We must act now to save lives and invest in a better present and future for girls and young women.

Your summit in Bali offers a vital opportunity to take decisive action to mitigate and prevent the most devastating impacts of hunger for girls. While we recognise your efforts to date, we urge you to seize this chance to make a real difference in the lives of millions of children and youth, and plan now for an effective global hunger crisis response through 2023.

Sincerely,

Signatures of:



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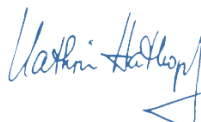
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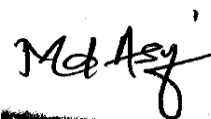
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