



Concept Note

Highlights of the School Meals Coalition Global Summit in Paris

*World Food Programme headquarters
Wednesday, 29 November 2023, 15:30–17:00
Auditorium, in-person session with online Zoom webinar*

The School Meals Coalition invites the WFP Executive Board members and its wider membership to an event showcasing the highlights of the First Global Summit of the School Meals Coalition.

Context

The first School Meals Coalition Global Summit, themed "*Investing in Future Generations: Human capital, sustainable food systems and climate change action through school meals*", was hosted by France on 18 and 19 October 2023 in Paris. For the first time, 70 governments and regional bodies including 25 Ministers came together at the highest levels to discuss a joint agenda on school meals. Representatives of United Nations agencies, mayors, parliamentarians and over 50 global partners also participated.

Building on other moments including the Food Systems Stocktaking event in Rome in July, the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi in September, the United Nations General Assembly, G7 and G20 discussions, the Global Summit highlighted the pivotal role that school meal programmes can play in tackling global challenges for children and providing a platform for food systems transformation and climate action.

At the Summit, numerous announcements and commitments were unveiled. Brazil became co-chair and nine countries joined the Coalition. More than 30 countries showcased their progress in strengthening their national programs and announced ambitious commitments to further advance these efforts. Coalition partners introduced new initiatives involving municipalities, civil society, and parliamentarians to bolster government initiatives.

Objectives of the event

This event will bring together WFP's Executive Board members, as well as the membership of the Coalition to:

- Debrief Member States on the main highlights and outcomes of the Global Summit as well as discuss on the next steps and way forward in preparation for 2024.
- Present concrete examples of country-level progress made, and bold commitments announced during the Global Summit in Paris.



Agenda

The event will be held at the World Food Programme headquarters' Auditorium in Rome.

15:15 Arrival of guests

15:30 Welcoming remarks

- Moderator – Ms Carmen Burbano, Director, School Based Programmes, WFP and School Meals Coalition Secretariat

15:36 Highlights of the Summit

- Her Excellency Céline Jurgensen, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of France to the Rome-based United Nations agencies, Co-chair of the School Meals Coalition
- Ms Tanja Grén, Permanent Representative of Finland, Co-chair of the School Meals Coalition
- Her Excellency Carla Barroso Carneiro, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Brazil, Co-chair of the School Meals Coalition

16:02 Country interventions

- H.E. Mr Bruno Archi, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Rome
- Dr. José Luis Delgado, Alternate Representative of Mexico to the Rome-based United Nations agencies
- A representative from Sri Lanka
- A representative from Kenya

16:34 Questions and answers from the floor

16:54 Closing remarks

- Ms Valerie Guarnieri, Assistant Executive Director, Programme and Policy Development Department, WFP