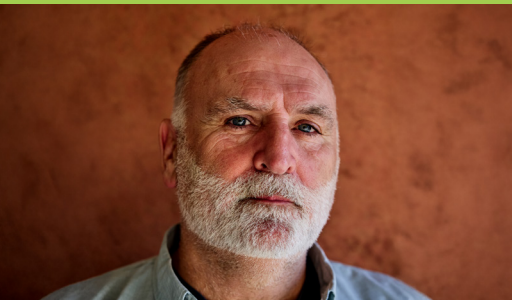




WORLD FOOD PRIZE FOUNDATION

AN URGENT CALL TO DOUBLE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE AND DOUBLE INVESTMENTS IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

A JOINT STATEMENT BY WORLD FOOD PRIZE LAUREATES AND CHEF JOSÉ ANDRÉS



As we celebrate the legacy of the great American scientist and World Food Prize founder Norman E. Borlaug, we reflect on the immensity of the task that remains unfinished: More than 700 million people go hungry each day, over two billion lack reliable access to food, nearly one in four children is stunted by malnutrition and man-made famine afflicts two continents.



More than 75 years have passed since the world first affirmed the fundamental human right to food. Yet, despite great progress, that right is still far from being realized.



We call on leaders across governments, industry and civil society to strengthen their own contributions to the collective task of freeing the world from hunger.



First, we must take every possible step to prevent famine by sustaining our support for emergency food relief, safeguarding and enabling the vital work of humanitarians and preventing the weaponization of food—doing our part to promote peace.



While food aid is not synonymous with food security, it is essential to sustaining life in conflict situations. We call on governments, international organizations and civil society to prioritize humanitarian provision of food to those entrapped by war and conflict. All too often belligerents in conflict impose impediments to the delivery of vital food aid to innocent civilians caught in the middle. This can never be acceptable in a civilized world.



We commend the work of the World Food Programme, recipient of the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize, as we note with grave concern the financial and other constraints they and like-minded organizations face in providing food in places beset with conflict such as Gaza Strip / Palestine, Sudan, South Sudan, Yemen, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Mali,



Ukraine and Haiti. Support for this vital work must be increased both to alleviate hunger and prepare a pathway to peace.

Second, we must confront the long-term risks to food security by accelerating sustainable agricultural productivity. We must learn to produce more with less—to feed a growing population on a planet under stress. That requires bold investment in transformative innovation, and in the locally led systems that bring those advances to the farmers, processors and consumers who can turn them into lasting impact.

Third, we must strive for shared prosperity—through policies that promote food security for all and through systems that allow innovations to spread and science to flourish.

Fourth, each and every one of us must each do our part to promote a culture of shared responsibility and action. Hunger is not someone else's problem to solve—it is a collective challenge that demands engagement from every corner of society.

Let us double down—not in words, but in action. We call on leaders to double emergency food assistance and double investments in sustainable agricultural development.

In doing so, we honor Dr. Borlaug's enduring legacy—and move closer to the world we all seek: one where hunger is history, and the right to food is a reality for all.

SIGNED IN PARTNERSHIP:

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