

Presidential Dialogue Group on Nutrition

United Nations General Assembly High-level Side Event
New York, USA – 22 September 2022

Presidential Declaration on Accelerated Stunting Reduction in Africa

Collective Action by African Leaders to Stop Childhood Stunting, Increase Human Capital, and Drive Development

We, the undersigned members of the Presidential Dialogue Group on Nutrition, assembled during the 77th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) to affirm our commitment to ending childhood stunting in our countries.

The Presidential Dialogue Group aims to accelerate reduction in stunting rates, while serving as an inspiration and blueprint for other countries in Africa and beyond. Working together with the African Development Bank through the African Leaders for Nutrition, the African Union Commission (AUC), and other member countries, we will amplify our impact and accelerate progress towards eliminating stunting across the continent.

More than 30 percent of African children are stunted—prevented from growing or developing properly—due to malnutrition and other underlying causes such as wasting, anemia, and low birth weight. In addition to the human cost, the economic burden of stunting is enormous, reducing countries' productivity and potential.

To significantly reduce the stunting rate, high-level political support is needed to develop programmatic interventions that target countries with a high prevalence of stunting. Therefore, the Presidential Dialogue Group has been established to augment the efforts by the African Development Bank through African Leaders for Nutrition to mobilize high-level political leadership to make nutrition a development priority on the national and continental agendas.

We also recognize that stunting cannot be addressed by any one sector. It will require multi-sectoral collaboration, bringing ministers across the cabinet together to forge collective solutions. We must break down traditional siloes and work towards one plan. In this regard, we note the success of Ethiopia's Seqota Declaration, the country's commitment to end stunting in children under two by 2030. With 2022 designated the Year of Nutrition by the African Union, the time for action is now. African Leaders for Nutrition is already working with AUC to develop a policy framework and a financing target to guide multi-sectoral nutrition programming and investment in the continent.




Presidential Dialogue Group on Nutrition

Convened by the African Development Bank through the African Leaders for Nutrition, the Presidential Dialogue Group on Nutrition that we have launched today will: (1) design multi-sectoral stunting reduction programs in our countries; (2) develop transparent methodologies to track our progress; and (3) share the lessons from our experience with countries across the continent to help accelerate their efforts.

The Presidential Dialogue Group commits to:

1. Demonstrate and provide high-level political leadership to end stunting in our countries.
2. Spearhead the development of multi-sectoral nutrition programs in our countries and across the continent.
3. Launch targeted multi-sectoral interventions in the regions of our countries with the highest prevalence of stunting to accelerate progress towards the objectives outlined in the Africa Regional Nutrition Strategy 2025, Agenda 2063, and the Sustainable Development Goals.
4. Develop a robust accountability mechanism to manage, monitor, and report progress.
5. Work with the African Development Bank, through the African Leaders for Nutrition, and other partners to mobilize financing to support these programs.
6. Encourage contributions by other stakeholders to further our national plans to eliminate stunting.

Signed by:



Country represented:

MADAGASCAR

Date:

13 décembre 2022



AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE
DE DEVELOPPEMENT

African Union 20 YEARS



Big Win
Philanthropy

Presidential Dialogue Group on Nutrition

Convened by the African Development Bank through the African Leaders for Nutrition, the Presidential Dialogue Group on Nutrition that we have launched today will: (1) design multi-sectoral stunting reduction programs in our countries; (2) develop transparent methodologies to track our progress; and (3) share the lessons from our experience with countries across the continent to help accelerate their efforts.

The Presidential Dialogue Group commits to:

1. Demonstrate and provide high-level political leadership to end stunting in our countries.
2. Spearhead the development of multi-sectoral nutrition programs in our countries and across the continent.
3. Launch targeted multi-sectoral interventions in the regions of our countries with the highest prevalence of stunting to accelerate progress towards the objectives outlined in the Africa Regional Nutrition Strategy 2025, Agenda 2063, and the Sustainable Development Goals.
4. Develop a robust accountability mechanism to manage, monitor, and report progress.
5. Work with the African Development Bank, through the African Leaders for Nutrition, and other partners to mobilize financing to support these programs.
6. Encourage contributions by other stakeholders to further our national plans to eliminate stunting.



H.E. Deputy Prime Minister Ato Demeke Mekonnen
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
22 September 2022



H.E. Vice President Philip Isdor Mpango
United Republic of Tanzania
22 September 2022



H.E. President Lazarus Chakwera
Republic of Malawi
22 September 2022



S.E. Vice-présidente Jessica Alupo
République d'Ouganda
22 septembre 2022



H.E. President Andry Rajoelina
Republic of Madagascar
13 December 2022



S.E. Président Félix Antoine Tshisekedimshilombo
République Démocratique du Congo
27 février 2024