



Federal Republic of Somalia

School Meals Coalition: Nutrition, Health, and Education for Every Child National Commitments

The Government of Somalia proudly joined the School Meals Coalition in 2021, affirming its dedication to ensuring that every child has access to a nutritious meal at school by 2030.

We recognize the profound impact of school meal programs on increasing student enrolment, reducing absenteeism, and enhancing learning outcomes. A daily school meal enables children to concentrate on their studies rather than hunger—because it is universally acknowledged that a hungry child cannot learn.

Beyond providing food, school meal programs are transformative. They promote food literacy, encouraging healthy eating habits among students. Additionally, these programs support smallholder farmers, many of whom are women, by creating sustainable markets for locally grown produce.

Given their broad and lasting impact on food security, nutrition, education, and overall wellbeing, the Government of Somalia places a high priority on investing in school meals programs. This commitment is reflected in the recently launched Somalia National Transformation Plan (2025–2029), which includes a comprehensive Enrolment and Retention Drive. At the heart of this initiative lies the school meals program, which plays a pivotal role in improving access to and quality of basic education.

To drive progress, the Government of Somalia makes the following commitments:

1. We commit to establishing a dedicated budget line for the National School Meals Programme no later than the 2026/27 fiscal year, ensuring consistent and sustainable public financing to support the health and development of our children.
2. We aim to expand coverage of the school meals program by 25% annually, targeting all public primary school children by 2030 and universal coverage by 2032.
3. We will prioritize home-grown school feeding by supporting smallholder farmers—particularly women—to produce sufficient quantities of food for schools. We will also promote school gardens and establish agriculture clubs to foster student engagement and program sustainability.

4. We intend to generate and apply evidence-based data to measure the impact of the school meals program on children and communities, and to identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities for improvement.
5. We are dedicated to strengthening the capacity of school meal program managers to enable effective nationwide scale-up and reinforce national ownership of program implementation.
6. We seek to enhance coordination among national and sub-national government entities and all relevant stakeholders. Investments will be made in advocacy and awareness campaigns to build public support and foster collaboration.
7. We plan to develop National School Meals Guidelines by 2026 to ensure high-quality, standardized implementation across the country. These guidelines will offer clear direction to all implementing agencies.
8. We reaffirm our alignment with the Coalition's goals and strategic objectives and will contribute actively to the global efforts to enhance the wellbeing of schoolchildren and their communities.
9. We look forward to engaging in learning exchanges and capacity-building activities with other member countries at both regional and global levels, sharing experiences to strengthen program effectiveness.

The Government of Somalia stands united with all School Meals Coalition partners in advancing inclusive, sustainable, and impactful school meals programs that nourish bodies, inspire minds, and transform futures.

Contact Details:

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Category: Federal Government

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