



## REPUBLIC OF KENYA

### COMMITMENT DOCUMENT FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA TO THE SCHOOL MEALS COALITION

**The Government of Kenya** expresses its strong support for the scale up of school meals programmes as a driver of recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

We are convinced that this programme is a systemic solution that helps combat child hunger and poverty; supports child nutrition, learning, long-term well-being and health equity; and promotes gender equality by keeping girls in school.

We believe school meals programmes are about much more than food in school. They help to improve and diversify children's diets, teach children how to eat better and support national and local markets and food systems by using locally grown food where possible, improving opportunities for smallholder farmers and local catering businesses, many led by women.

At a time world leaders are pointing to the Sustainable Development Goals as the pathway toward building back better from the pandemic, school meals should be positioned as a central, cross-cutting intervention that will contribute to a more sustainable and equitable future.

**The Government of Kenya** joined the School Meals Coalition and announced the following commitments towards its goals:

- We shall work with multiple stakeholders to find sustainable and innovative funding sources for school meals programmes to achieve better outcomes for school children in Kenya and globally.
- We shall enhance the school meals programme initiatives working together with partners to expand the coverage from the current 1.9 million children to a universal coverage by the year 2030.
- We shall develop a national policy on nutritious school meals by June 2023.
- We shall establish a national school meals coalition and hold annual school meals stakeholder conference with the aim of strengthening national coordination of the programme.
- We shall strengthen efficiency and accountability of the national school meals programme by rolling out a digitalized school meals data and reporting module within the National Education Management Information System by December 2023.

- We shall participate in peer-peer activities with other countries on impactful, nutritious, and sustainable school feeding programmes (study visits, case studies, technical assistance).
- We shall strengthen market linkages by re-building capacity of small holder farmers to supply nutritious meals to schools.
- We shall work with multiple stakeholders to introduce green technologies that provide clean energy solutions to support safe food preparation. This will go along way in supporting implementation of Kenya's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDCs) through carbon offset.
- Encourage school gardens through the re- established 4-k clubs for introduction of healthy diets and for the sustainability of the school meals programme.

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