



Quotes for social media and news articles

Promoting the first School Meals Coalition Global Summit

Paris, France 18 - 19 October 2023

Theme of the first School Meals Coalition Global Summit is: **Investing in Future Generations: Human Capital, Sustainable Food Systems and Climate Change Action Through School Meals.** The Summit showcases member countries' new commitments and to welcome new members of the Coalition. At the Summit, the Coalition will demonstrate its strong mobilising role in the last two years to ensure that every child, by 2030 can receive a nutritious meal in school every day. Although a significant number of countries are using school meal programmes as a safety net offering a strong lever to nourish the next generations, creating jobs, driving economic growth, transforming food systems, and promoting longer-term development, there is an urgent need to mobilise countries not providing meals in school or with small programmes to invest in school meals.

This Summit presents an opportunity for all members and partners to join the school meals global conversation in Paris in influencing more commitment and support to scale up school meal programmes everywhere.

The Coalition has compiled quotes that partners including the media can use for social media and to support production of stories on school meals.

To gather more content, including direct quotes of speakers, you can also follow the livestreaming of the Summit on our [Microsite](https://shorturl.at/AEX38): EN: <https://shorturl.at/AEX38>

FR: <https://shorturl.at/dnGOX>

Main website: <https://shorturl.at/drE27>

Suggested Hashtags to be used:

#GlobalSchoolMealsSummit
#FoodSystems
#SchoolMeals
#SDGs
#GlobalGoals

Suggested Handles:

@SchoolMeals_
@FoodSystems
@Your Governments Handle
@Your Organizations Handle
@Your Country
@Finland
@France

1. "Our goal is to provide all our children by 2030 with the meals they need to learn and grow well at school. France is committed to this at national level. We are working closely with all our teachers and staff, in our schools, colleges and high schools. This is also what we have done in our university restaurants with one Euro meals through the students' assistance office. This is what we are doing in our schools with the one Euro canteen. This is what we are doing with free breakfasts. It is an essential fight in our country but also internationally. This is why I have been a strong supporter of the Schools Meals Coalition since we launched it with WFP, and Finland. France is contributing to more than 28 million Euros to WFP school meals programmes, and providing support to school meals in emergency situations like in Afghanistan, Haiti, and Venezuela." President Emmanuel Macron, France.



2. "We are only seat warmers as the children we feed today will be leading us tomorrow. In the past two years, Timor Leste has increased the budgetary allocation for the school meals by 175% from 8.5 million dollars to 22.4 million dollars in the current fiscal year, from 25 cents per child to 42 cents per child per day. We are also bringing this programme much closer to the people." Timor Leste President, Jose Ramos-Horta.
3. "Feeding our school children is crucial, and at the United States Department of Agriculture we recognise the value in feeding and fuelling our future leaders. Nearly 30 million children participate every day in our school lunch program, and it makes a huge difference in addressing malnutrition and supporting effective learning." Agriculture Secretary, USA, Tom Vilsack.
4. "In 2022-2023 we are increasing the monies that we have committed to the school meals programme. We have decided to focus on domestically grown food items, the vegetables, and the other agricultural crops that we need will be from domestic production. This important step will ensure that all school children have access to locally produced food." Sri Lanka President, Ranil Wickremesinghe.
5. "We have amended the school feeding law and the budget was increased from USD 240 million in 2019 to USD 405 million in 2023. After covering preschool and elementary school meals, we now include the nursery and high school levels reaching the total coverage of the program in the national education system." Guatemala President, Alejandro Giamattei
6. "We have expanded the national programme by 108 percent this year. We are fully committed to continuing our efforts to improve education and nutrition for our children – to enhance the future of our children. We are grateful for the support from the School Meals Coalition and look forward to working together to enhance the future of our children." Cambodia, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport, Dr. Chuon Naron Hang.
7. "In the past two years, Nigeria has scaled up its national school meals programme from over 8.9 million children in 2021 to about 10 million children in 2023. In the past year, the budget allocated to school feeding increased by 43%. This year the government has also passed a new national policy on school meals to ensure that every eligible child in the country access a nutritious meal by 2030." Nigeria, Sadiya Umar Farouq, Former Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development.
8. Healthy food is what we eat and is good for our health. It's not just eating because we have a mouth, but because we know that this food will be good for us, it will take us far." Miriam Dinaya Manuel Ferreira, 9-year-old learner at Namialo Primary School in Nampula, Mozambique.
9. "When I become the Prime Minister, I would give all children two meals a day because a lunch meal makes students less hungry while studying." Chandy, 13-year-old learner at Kor Koh Primary School in Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia.
10. "If I were the Prime Minister, I would give children food three times a day: before they start their classes, at break time, and after school before they go home. Because when they get home, they may not find any food and spend the whole day hungry." Sophonie, 11-year-old learner from Haiti.

