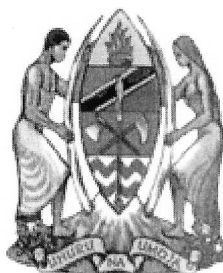


**UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**  
**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**



**School Meals Coalition on nutrition, health and education for every child:**  
**National Commitment of the United Republic of Tanzania**

We, the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania join other leaders of the United Nations, civil society academia, charity and the private sectors to express our strong determination aimed to scale up the implementation of school meals programmes at pre- primary, primary and secondary schools. Primarily, the Government seeks to protect the most vulnerable children from food insecurity and malnutrition and thereby leaving no one behind. We acknowledge that school meals attract children to school and support children's learning and their long-term well-being. We recognise that healthy school meals promote gender equity by supporting girls and boys to attend and graduate from school, reducing the risk of child marriage, early pregnancies and gender-based violence. Equally important, school meals programme also contribute towards a holistic development of a child well-being through the integration of education, nutrition, health and social protection interventions and serves as a platform to teach children about healthy diets and sustainable lifestyles.

**Acknowledging** that the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania strives for economic transformation to enable the country to achieve a higher middle-income status as projected in the National Development Vision 2025, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) has developed the National Guidelines for School Feeding and Nutrition Service for Basic Education Students. We recognise that school meals play an important role in food systems transformation as they combat child hunger, poverty and multiple forms of malnutrition. We envisage that the effective

implementation of this guidelines will therefore contribute to the elimination of the prevailing short-term and hidden hunger to students, thereby improving their nutritional and health status, increase attendance, academic performance and reduce student's truancy. This in turn, will enable students to acquire the intended knowledge, skills and competences necessary for their own life and the national development at large.

**Acknowledging** that the risk factors for malnutrition are multisectoral and multifactorial, the national school feeding and nutrition services guidelines have been designed to demonstrate the contribution of the education sector to overall national nutrition outcomes. We endorse school feeding as an important intervention to address the multiple causative factors as proposed in the National Multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (NMNAPII) and the Tanzania Pathways for Sustainable Food Systems 2030, which are both multisectoral.

Consequently, we recognise that the effective implementation of the National Guidelines for School Feeding and Nutrition Service depends on the active participation of key stakeholders and implementers, who include: MoEST; President's Office Regional Administration and Local Governments (PO-RALG); Other Sector Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs); Regions; Councils; Local Government Authorities; Schools; Parents/Guardians; Communities; Private sectors and Development Partners. We, therefore, as the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania undertake to provide the required human, financial, and other resources that may be necessary to achieve the commitments made.

**Recognising** that innovative strategies and systematic approaches are required in transforming food systems, to deliver healthier diets, we embrace home grown school feeding as a mechanism that will ensure sustainable, resilient and equitable provision of school meals, strengthen national and local food systems, markets and economy. We also welcome school gardens as we believe they will reshape the eating habits and dietary transitions among the school children targeted through school clubs while scaling up higher quality school meals programme.

While realising our responsibility to the people of Tanzania and recognising school feeding and nutrition services as an impactful and efficient intervention bringing significant social returns for resources invested, we affirm our commitment to scale up school and nutrition services nationally, contributing to eliminating short-term hunger in schools thereby increasing access to education and retention in schools, which contribute to human capital development.

We envisage a Tanzania where every child has the opportunity to enjoy a healthy and nutritious meal in school by 2030, supporting the full realisation of their human potential. To achieve this critical goal, as we join the school meals coalition, we pledge ourselves to the full implementation of the following commitments:

<b>S/No</b>	<b>Commitment</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
1	Inclusion of nutritious school meals in the National Food and nutrition policy as a strategy to promote good nutrition among school-aged children.	Policy	National Food and Nutrition Policy includes nutritious school meals statements by June 2027	June 2027
2	Allocate budget for the school meals programme in the national budget and increase the yearly school meals budget according to the number of students	Financing	Budget for the school meals programme in the national budget increased annually by 13 percent	June 2030
3	Adopt the SADC School Meals Guidelines, and the African Union Home Grown School Feeding Guidelines	Programme design and coverage commitments	SADC School Meals Guidelines and the African Union Home Grown School Feeding Guidelines adopted by June 2026	June 2026
4	Establish National School Feeding Technical Working Group for the implementation of School Feeding Programmes	Institutional capacity and coordination	National School Feeding Technical Working Group for the implementation of School Feeding Programmes established by June 2025	June 2025
5	Mobilise stakeholders to	Advocacy	Stakeholders' support	June,



	support the school feeding programme	and partnerships commitments	in school feeding programme mobilised by 2028	2028
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Country/Organization: United Republic of Tanzania

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Date: 21/05/2024