



A GLOBAL NGO NETWORK
FOR PRINCIPLED AND EFFECTIVE
HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ICVA Statement on Leadership Transition at the World Food Programme

ICVA thanks Cindy McCain for her three years of leadership of the World Food Programme during an exceptionally challenging period for the humanitarian community and the people we serve.

Under her stewardship, WFP continued to deliver life-saving assistance to unprecedented humanitarian need driven by conflict, climate shocks, economic instability, and rising food insecurity.

As she steps down for health reasons, we extend our warmest wishes to her and hope that the time ahead brings rest, strength, and renewed wellbeing.

The leadership of WFP carries profound operational, normative, and political responsibility. Millions of people facing hunger and crisis rely on WFP's ability to act decisively and credibly.

At this critical moment, ICVA underscores the importance of a genuinely open, transparent, and merit-based selection process for the next Executive Director. The strength and legitimacy of the organisation depend on appointing the most qualified candidate through a process that upholds fairness, integrity, and institutional independence.

WFP remains a central pillar of the humanitarian system. Its operational reach and logistics capacity are indispensable to effective emergency response and to supporting communities facing acute food insecurity and hunger.

The humanitarian system is undergoing significant reform amid acute financial and political pressure. WFP's next leadership must safeguard humanitarian principles, ensure accountability, and strengthen partnership with NGOs and local actors.

ICVA stands ready to engage constructively in the period ahead, including by facilitating dialogue between NGOs and relevant stakeholders to support a leadership transition that reinforces WFP's credibility, independence, and effectiveness. We remain committed to working closely with the next leadership to strengthen principled humanitarian action and inclusive partnership at all levels.