
SPECIAL DECLARATION 1: ON THE CELAC PLAN FOR FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION AND HUNGER ERADICATION 2025 (CELAC FNS PLAN 2025)

The Heads of State and Government of Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on the occasion of the Fifth Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States on 25 January 2017;

Taking into account the purpose of the CELAC FNS Plan 2025, which is to “achieve specific results that translate into significant improvements in the quality of life of our peoples, aimed at the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, which guarantee food and nutrition security, with gender perspective and respect in the diversity of food habits, to tackle the challenges of food security and nutrition with a view to the eradication of hunger and the enjoyment of the Right to Food, especially by vulnerable sectors.”

Recognizing the importance of enhancing international cooperation for development as a key instrument for the fulfillment of the objectives of the CELAC FNS Plan 2025 and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda;

Grateful for the valuable contributions by FAO, ECLAC and ALADI and taking note of the document titled “Food and Nutrition Security and the Eradication of Hunger CELAC 2025. Elements for debate and regional cooperation,” which includes considerations on the effect of climate change on productive systems and its impact on efforts to eradicate hunger and all forms of malnutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Recognizing the recent approval of the model Law on Family Agriculture at the 32th General Assembly of PARLATINO held in Panama City on December 3, 2016, which will set the guideline for strengthening family farming as a key factor for food security in the countries of the region, as well as the impulse that together with the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean (PFH), to strengthen institutional frameworks, which have been reflected in the Declaration of the 7th PFH Forum, held on November 9th, 10th and 11th, 2016, in Mexico City, Mexico.

Reaffirm the commitment to prioritizing the consolidation and implementation of the CELAC FNS Plan 2025; they reiterate their request for technical and financial support to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Program (WFP), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), and they call upon other United Nations Agencies involved in the subject to continue the joint actions that contribute to its implementation and the consolidation of food and nutrition security and sovereignty of the region.

Seeking to ameliorate the excessive volatility of food prices through the elimination that market distortions pose to food and nutrition security.

In view of the importance of jointly facing challenges associated with climate change and a timely response to social and natural disasters which may affect food security, food availability and the stability of food supply:

1. Recognizing that, despite the progress achieved in the region, poverty and the prevalence of food insecurity and hunger continue to be a challenge for the countries in the region. In this sense, we reiterate our commitment to continue working on the zero hunger goal in Latin America and the Caribbean.
2. Reiterating the importance of implementing programs and actions that prioritize a comprehensive attention to the wellbeing of children less than five years old, in order to guarantee their adequate and healthy nutrition.
3. Emphasizing the validity of the recommendations and strategies for the implementation of measures that facilitate the strengthening of School Nourishment Programs in the Latin American and the Caribbean region, in accordance with the adopted agreements within the framework of the CELAC Plan on Food Security, Nutrition and the Eradication of Hunger 2025.
4. Reiterating the commitments made in the Cancun Declaration on "Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Wellbeing" adopted at the 13th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP13), on December 2nd and 3rd, 2016 and shall endeavor to implement the actions recommended in its annex, particularly those relating to the integration of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the agricultural, livestock, forestry and fisheries, and tourism sectors, adapted to the needs and circumstances of each country.
5. Reiterating the commitment made in the Special Declaration on Food Security and Nutrition and Eradication of Hunger of CELAC 2025, adopted at the 4th CELAC Summit, to promote interinstitutional coordination and with the Agencies of the United Nations System in their respective countries, to implement the CELAC FNS Plan 2025 considering the integral approach of its objectives, as well as to affirm the need to involve non-governmental stakeholders in the efforts to implement the plan.
6. Taking note of the work done by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in the elaboration of the Voluntary Guidelines for Agro-Environmental Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean, presented at the above-mentioned COP13, whose application may be of great use for the protection of the resources that are the basis of the food security of our region, for which we accept the offer of the FAO to use the "Platform on Biodiversity, Agriculture and Food" as a tool to promote the integration of conservation and the integration of biodiversity in agriculture, livestock, forestry and fisheries, and tourism.

7. Understanding and promoting the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries, and sustainable aquaculture in the framework of food security and nutritional subsistence systems, particularly for people in small islands and those dependent on coastal area resources.
8. Underlining that greater investment in agriculture, including family farming is one of the recommended responses to enhance food and nutritional security, given its positive impact on food supply, producers' income, employment promotion and the strengthening of the economies of countries in the region.
9. Noting the importance of promoting the complementarity of regional cooperation actions in Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) that contribute to the implementation of the CELAC FNS Plan 2025, such as the Mesoamerica without Hunger Program and the Latin America and Caribbean without Hunger Initiative, to guarantee the FNS and achieve the necessary technical institutionality to create resilience in family farming.
10. Reiterating their commitment to the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including goal 6 of objective 14, and the commitment made in Doha on the prohibition of certain types of fisheries subsidies, that contribute to the excess of capacity and over-fishing; the elimination of subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; as well as to abstain from introducing subsidies of this nature. This should be an integral part of the negotiations on fisheries subsidies, a special and differentiated, appropriate and effective treatment, for developing and least developed members, taking into account the importance of the sector for development priorities, poverty reduction and concerns regarding livelihoods and food security. The countries of the Latin American and Caribbean region shall make their greatest efforts to ensure this is one of the outcomes of the 11th WTO Ministerial Conference, to be held next December in the city of Buenos Aires, Argentina.
11. Calling upon all the member of the WTO with the objective of joining forces and continuing in the 11th Ministerial Conference mentioned, the path of the 10th MC of Nairobi, and achieving concrete results in the elimination of all distortions to agricultural trade, which affect mainly the developing and least developed countries.
12. Recognizing the importance of implementing and monitoring public policies focused on social protection, employment and supply, among other issues of social impact, as part of the fundamental principles that guide the eradication of hunger and poverty in the region.
13. Committing to design and implement public policies aimed at promoting the development of family farming through government programs that guarantee the

acquisition and distribution of harvests from this sector of production in view of contributing both to the food security of the population as well as the well-being of family farmers.

14. Highlighting the positive impact of facilitating and increasing intraregional trade in food for food and nutrition security, while pledging to make their best efforts to overcome the challenges presented and to improve levels of inequality.
15. Promoting a sustainable, inclusive and efficient food production system that allows small farmers to participate in these systems in particular, and reduces food losses and waste.
16. Recognizing the relevant role of South-South and triangular cooperation, complementary to North-South cooperation, and Official Development Aid in the increase of national capacities, in favor of food and nutrition security, favoring the exchange of good practices and experiences that the States consider successful on the adaptation to negative impacts of climate change and on food and nutrition security.
17. Renewing the request for financial and technical support to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), as well as to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) with a view to implementing the 2025 CELAC FNS Plan and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
18. Applauding the initiative promoted by Peru for the 71st United Nations General Assembly to proclaim June 18 of each year as “International Day for Sustainable Gastronomy,” and recognizes the close link between the promotion of sustainable gastronomy and the promotion and conservation of historical, cultural and natural heritage, as well as with the protection and conservation of biodiversity in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.
19. We welcome the adoption of the Gender Strategy for the implementation of the CELAC FNS Plan 2025, with the purpose of building the necessary bridges to guarantee the empowerment of women, mainly rural women.

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, January 25th, 2017