Grand Bargain in 2022:

Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary

Name of Institution: UN World Food Programme

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(NB. Please limit your answer to no more than <u>4 pages in total</u> – anything over this word limit will not be considered. Please respond to all of the questions below.)

Grand Bargain in 2022

Question 1: Reflecting on the information you have provided in the Excel spreadsheet, please highlight the 2 or 3 key outcomes or results relating to the Grand Bargain that your institution achieved in 2022?

In 2022, WFP made considerable progress in the overall use of cash-based transfers by delivering USD 3.3 billion through cash, value and commodity vouchers, to nearly 53 million people in 72 countries. Cash transfers represented 35% of WFP's total assistance, increasing by USD 1 billion (or 42%) compared to 2021. WFP also advanced on other cash-related activities, developing a new Cash Based Transfers Policy – to be approved in mid-2023; releasing a Cash in Emergencies Toolkit; and publishing a Cash Assurance Framework to manage cash transfer risks. Additionally, WFP maintained its engagement through the <u>UN Common Cash Statement</u> with UNHCR, UNICEF and OCHA around joint programming, procurement and interoperability.

WFP continued to promote the use of the <u>UN Partner Portal</u>, facilitating harmonized due diligence processes for cooperating partners across different UN agencies. Membership of the portal increased to seven members¹ in 2022, and discussions are ongoing to further expand it.

WFP also launched a revised <u>Corporate Results Framework</u> for integrated monitoring and reporting - harmonizing all relevant indicators from the Grand Bargain and other multilateral processes -, kept reporting on the <u>IATI</u> on a monthly basis to ensure transparency and accountability, and conducted the large majority of needs assessments jointly with governments and partners.

Question 2: Briefly explain how the outcomes contribute to achieving the Grand Bargain 2.0 enabling priority 1 (quality funding).

Enabling priority 1: A critical mass of quality funding is reached that allows an effective and efficient response, ensuring visibility and accountability.

As an entirely voluntary-funded organization, WFP values all resources for its operational responses. However, flexibility and predictability of funding reduce transaction costs and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of WFP interventions. This is even more relevant during the current global food crisis, where making better use of scarce resources is crucial. Hence, in 2022 WFP continued to advocate for the strategic value of flexible and predictable, multi-year (MY) funding both at a global and local level. In addition to MY agreements earmarked to specific programmes, WFP continued to promote Strategic Partnership Agreements securing predictable core funding for a set of joint long-term objectives. WFP also added a section on MY funding in its Annual Report on Flexible Funding. Although the percentage of MY funding of WFP's total contribution revenue declined, there has been an increase in the absolute volume of MY contributions compared to 2021 (USD 258 million). Advocacy on flexible funding also continued in 2022, including through the launch of a new regular donor update informing about the allocations made with unearmarked funds, and

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¹ UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Women the UN Secretariat and WFP.

strengthened guidance and tools to support visibility both at the global and local level. In 2022, WFP also adopted a renewed field-focused governance structure for the management of unearmarked resources and broadened the definition of flexible funding by introducing a new category of *softly earmarked* funding, in addition to unearmarked. This allowed for better alignment with the Grand Bargain definition and recognition of donors' flexibility beyond unearmarked contributions, namely to provide due visibility for thematic and regional contributions.

Question 3: Briefly explain how the outcomes contribute to achieving the Grand Bargain 2.0 enabling priority 2 (localisation and participation).

Enabling priority 2: Greater support is provided for the leadership, delivery and capacity of local responders and the participation of affected communities in addressing humanitarian needs.

In 2022, WFP continued to contribute towards the second Grand Bargain's enabling priority, partnering with around 1,000 NGOs around the globe – from small grassroots groups to large international humanitarian agencies. Three-quarters of WFP's food and cash-based transfers were delivered together with NGOs. Additionally, thanks to its unparalleled field presence in more than 120 countries and territories and with 280 field offices, WFP engaged not only with central governments and national-level entities but also at subnational administrative levels and in localities. In the <u>Capacity strengthening policy updates</u> presented to the Executive Board, WFP reaffirmed its commitment to localisation, emphasizing the importance to increasing investment in the institutional capacities of local and national responders, aiming to make humanitarian action as local as possible and as international as necessary.

WFP also placed emphasis on the "participation revolution" of affected populations, launching a new strategy to strengthen community engagement practices across all operations to support the implementation of its <u>Protection and Accountability Policy</u>.

Question 4: Has your institution endorsed the caucus outcome document on quality funding, on the role of intermediaries, on cash coordination, <u>Yes/No?</u> If yes, briefly describe the actions you took to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the caucuses. If not, please explain why.

WFP was engaged in the caucus tasked to develop a concerted proposal on predictable and accountable **cash coordination** by early 2022. As a previous Cash Workstream coconvener with the United Kingdom until 2021, WFP played a key role in the development and endorsement of the new cash coordination model approved by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) in March 2022. Since then, WFP became a member of the global Cash Advisory Group (CAG) tasked to develop tools and guidance for cash working groups transitioning to the new model by March 2024. WFP will continue to engage actively on cash coordination, as it has been co-leading 41 out of 63 cash working groups globally in 2022.

As an original member of the caucus on **quality funding**, WFP endorsed its outcome document, reiterating its commitment to demonstrate the benefits of multi-year and flexible financing, and exploring possible ways of improving global level data on resources transferred to cooperating partners. WFP attaches great importance to strengthening localisation and has recently endorsed the outcome document on the

role of intermediaries, noting reservations on commitments 3, 5 and 7, which are not ready to be tracked as per its current reporting systems.

Grand Bargain and cross-cutting issues

Question 5: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment² in humanitarian settings through its implementation of the Grand Bargain? What results/outcomes have been achieved in this regard?

In February 2022, WFP's Executive Board approved a new Gender Policy, placing partnerships with gender-mandated and women's civil society organizations at the centre of the agency's efforts to accelerate progress in gender equality and women's empowerment. As part of implementing the new policy, WFP is reviewing its field-based contractual agreements with cooperating partners aimed at facilitating the establishment of partnerships with gender-mandated and women's civil society organizations, particularly local ones. WFP also dedicated a specific session on gender and localisation during its Annual Partnerships Conference, with the participation of local women's organizations. Additionally, WFP's new Cash policy is placing considerable attention to gender equality, prioritizing women as the primary recipients of money transfers that benefit the household, and strengthening their capacity to use financial services. In 2022, around 1.6 million women received cash transfers directly in their digital financial accounts. Gender mainstreaming in WFP's country strategic plan frameworks continued throughout 2022, including via new indicators better aligned to the new Gender Policy.

WFP also advanced the implementation of its gender mainstreaming mechanisms. In 2022, 13 WFP country offices implemented the <u>Gender Transformation Programme</u>, with 3 successfully completing it (Ecuador, Eswatini and Pakistan) and 3 to finalise in early 2023 (Nigeria, Senegal and Tanzania). Additionally, WFP continued applying its <u>Gender and Age Marker (GaM)</u>³ to all country strategic programmes. A review of the GaM was launched in 2022 to enhance alignment with the new Gender Policy. WFP further measured the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan for gender equality and women's empowerment second iteration (UNSWAP 2.0), exceeding nine indicators, meeting four, approaching three, and not reporting on one due to non-applicability. In 2023, WFP will focus on boosting capacity for financial resources allocation and tracking, and carrying out a gender and diversity audit.

Question 6: How has the humanitarian-development nexus been strategically mainstreamed in your institutional implementation of the Grand Bargain commitments? Please explain how your institution has linked commitments 10.1 - 10.5 with other commitments from other workstreams. In 2022, WFP has continued to mainstream the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) Nexus as a strategic and operational priority for the organization, as reflected in

² Refer to the IASC definitions of gender equality and women empowerment, available <u>here</u>.

³ The WFP GaM, adapting the IASC Gender Marker, is a corporate tool that codes – on a 0 to 4 scale - the extent to which gender and age are integrated in the design and monitoring of a WFP programme.

its 2022-2025 Strategic Plan and in most of its 2022 country strategic plans.⁴ These efforts were pursued through various initiatives, including the generation of evidence on WFP's contribution to peace at country level, operational partnerships on the ground, and strategic engagement in key platforms.

WFP continued to expand evidence on its contribution to peace, including through a research partnership with the <u>Stockholm International Peace Research Institute</u>. WFP is also concluding an evaluation of its 2013 peacebuilding policy "WFP's Role in Peacebuilding in Transition Settings" - to be presented in February 2023 - which will inform WFP's approach to peace contribution and conflict sensitivity.

To advance the Grand Bargain commitment 10.2, WFP continued to work through the UNHCR and WFP Joint Programme Excellence and Targeting Hub to better support vulnerable refugee populations in selected countries and promote a shift towards self-reliance. The work of the Hub also enhanced commitment 10.4, particularly through joint vulnerability assessments undertaken by the two agencies. In addition, WFP contributed to joint context analyses aimed at mainstreaming conflict sensitivity and engaged in inter-agency fora, such as the Global Access Working Group and the IASC Task Force 3 on Access. Lastly, in support to commitment 10.5, WFP stepped up its leadership of the Global Network Against Food Crises as a key platform for addressing the root causes of food crises through a nexus approach, and kept co-leading the Fighting Food Crises along the HDP Nexus coalition, formed after the Food Systems Summit. WFP has continued to co-chair the DAC-UN Dialogue, which resulted in the creation of the Nexus Academy, and engage in the IASC Task Force 4 on the HDP Nexus.

OPTIONAL QUESTION: Question 7: Has your institution taken any steps to share risks with its partners? If so, please describe how. (For ease of reference, please see a set of actions and recommendations to enhance risk sharing as suggested in the report <u>Risk Sharing in Practice</u>, June 2022, commissioned by the Netherlands and the ICRC).

In 2022, WFP continued to foster inter-agency exchanges on risk management and control activities. Collaboration with UNHCR focused on sharing training material, drawing upon WFP's experience with the <u>Advanced Operational Risk Management Certificate of Practice</u> for staff at all levels. WFP and the World Intellectual Property Organization continued to co-chair the <u>Risk Management Forum</u> of the UN High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM), a network of over 30 international organisations for best practices on risk management. The Risk Management Forum held special sessions on best practices in managing cyber-risk and implementing the <u>three lines model</u> – adopted by WFP while updating its internal control framework in 2015.

⁴ Out of the 25 country strategic plans submitted to the WFP Executive Board in 2022, 50% explicitly referred to the nexus, while 65% included one or more nexus-related references (e.g., social cohesion, peace or SDG16).

⁵ The Hub supported WFP and UNHCR country offices in DRC, Djibouti, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, and has completed a cycle of support in Cameroon, Jordan and Rwanda.

⁶ The DAC-UN Dialogue was established to support collective implementation of the OECD-DAC recommendation on the humanitarian–development–peace nexus and brings together DAC members and UN Agencies.