



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
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Security Council Open debate on Conflict-related Food Insecurity 17 November 2025

Greece's Statement delivered
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Your Excellency, President Bio.

We thank Sierra Leone for convening this timely debate, as the WFP warns for the first time in recent history, the world is facing two concurrent famines — in Sudan and in Gaza. Hence, the clear-eyed analysis of the briefings we heard this morning come at a critical juncture.

The 2025 Global Report on Food Crises & the FAO–WFP Hunger Hotspots 2025-2026 Outlook leave no doubt: conflict remains the principal driver of acute hunger.

According to the Hunger Hotspots report, acute food insecurity is likely to worsen across 16 countries and territories. Among them, Sudan, Palestine, South Sudan, Haiti, and Mali remain hotspots of “highest concern”, while Yemen has now been elevated to the same category.

This stark reality is a moral alarm bell that must jolt the international community into unified action. Across these contexts, armed violence destroys harvests, blocks markets, and displaces millions — severing livelihoods and eroding resilience.

The figures are staggering: in Sudan, 24.6 million people are projected to face crisis or worse levels of food insecurity. In Gaza, despite the partial resumption of humanitarian assistance since mid-October, one-third of the population is expected to face famine (the highest IPC phase). In South Sudan 57% of the population faces high levels of acute food insecurity. In Haiti, by June 2026, 5.9 million people — over half the population — is projected to face crisis and will struggle to survive.

These are not statistics. They are lives — families, women, and children — caught in the crossfire of conflict and deprivation.

In this respect, I want to highlight the following:

First, conflict multiplies vulnerability. Reports show that armed conflict and violence remain the primary driver of acute food insecurity: In 14 out of 16 hotspots armed violence is the dominant cause of hunger. Food insecurity today is *not inevitable*; it is mostly *man-made*. This also means it is almost always *foreseeable* and *preventable*.

Second, the surge in hunger is occurring amid shrinking humanitarian resources. Only 36% of the required funding for food security has been received by October 2025. At the same time, official development assistance is projected to decline by 13% this year. This erosion of support has devastating effects: food assistance is rationed, nutrition programs are cut, and pathways from relief to recovery collapse. Predictable financing, particularly through multilateral mechanisms, is essential to sustain operations and rebuild livelihoods.

Third, addressing conflict-related food insecurity requires coherent political, humanitarian, and development action. UNSC Res. 2417 reminds us that the deliberate starvation of civilians is prohibited — yet such violations persist. The Council must ensure that Resolution 2417 is translated into consistent practice — demanding respect for humanitarian law, unhindered humanitarian access to all civilians, and holding accountable those who weaponize hunger.

In the context of accessibility, I would like to underscore the indispensable role of *maritime security* in safeguarding global food supply chains. Nearly 90% of traded food commodities move by sea; disruptions to maritime routes due to conflict directly jeopardize the availability and affordability of food worldwide.

Fourth, we must recognize that *food security is national security*. Where people cannot feed their families, despair fuels displacement, instability, and conflict. When food systems collapse, so do economies, institutions, and social cohesion.

Investing in food security is therefore an investment in peace; no nation can be secure when its people are hungry.

Mr. President,

On this occasion, we reaffirm our steadfast commitment to global food security. Greece is party to the *Global Alliance against Hunger & Poverty* since 2024 and was among the early signatories of the *2023 Joint Communiqué Condemning the Use of Food as a Weapon of War*.

Translating commitment into action, Greece proudly participates in the *Grain from Ukraine* initiative under WFP. Further, in solidarity with civilians, Greece airdropped 8.5 tons of food supplies in Gaza earlier this year, while also being a contributing donor to WFP's operations in Sudan.

The human cost of inaction is measured in lives lost, in children irreversibly malnourished, and in communities robbed of hope. The *Hunger Hotspots* and *Global Report on Food Crises* are not records of despair — they are calls to coordinated, decisive action.

Preventing famine and ending the weaponization of hunger are not only moral imperatives — they are political responsibilities. Greece stands ready to work with all partners to ensure that conflict no longer consigns millions to hunger.

I thank you.