

**DECISION ON THE AFRICAN UNION 2022  
THEME OF THE YEAR ON NUTRITION**

***Strengthening Resilience in Nutrition and Food Security on the African  
Continent: Strengthening Agro-Food Systems, Health and Social Protection  
Systems for the Acceleration of Human, Social and Economic Capital  
Development (Assembly/AU/Dec. 813(XXXV).***

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the roadmap of the AU Continental Report on the 2022 African Union Theme of the Year Implementation Roadmap and **COMMENDS** the AU Leader for the Theme of the Year 2022, H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, for his stewardship and leadership in advocating for food security and nutrition agenda in the continent.
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the role of the African Union Nutrition Champion, His Majesty King Letsie III, of the Kingdom of Lesotho, for mobilizing Heads of State and Government, policy and decision-makers to elevate Nutrition on continental and national agendas and strengthening the political will to address the complex root causes of malnutrition.
3. **EXPRESSING** our profound appreciation to the African Union Member States and partners for their support on the implementation of the AU Theme of the Year for 2022 Action, and **WELCOMES** the outcomes achieved by the AU Commission and Organs, Member States, Regional Economic Communities, civil societies and partners.
4. **EMPHASIZING** on the importance of addressing hunger, malnutrition and all its forms and recognizing the adverse effects in human capital economic and social development, with unacceptable human consequences on individuals, communities and nations, **CALLING ON** Member States and development partners, to scale up interventions to overcome challenges;
5. **NOTING WITH GREAT CONCERN** the growing challenges of Nutrition and food security in Africa exacerbated by the ever-increasing impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic, the conflict in Ukraine, climate change, and rising uncertainties in the global financial markets, and **RECOGNIZING** that we have only three years left to achieve the Malabo targets (10% and 5% Stunting and underweight), the Africa Regional Nutrition Strategy (2016-2025) and less than a decade to achieve the Sustainable development goals (SDGs) and working towards the achievement of Agenda 2063;
6. **ALSO UNDERSCORING** the compounding disruptions and **RECOGNIZING** the generational impacts of malnutrition across the health, education and economic sectors;

**WE HEREBY:**

**APPEAL** to the AU Leader of the 2022 theme of the year, H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, African Union Nutrition Champion His Majesty King Letsie III, Head of State of the Kingdom of Lesotho

and all African Leaders for Nutrition to continue advocating for the nutrition and food security continental agenda;

**CALL UPON** the African Union Commission, partners and relevant stakeholders to work closely with the African Union Nutrition Champion, His Majesty King Letsie III of the Kingdom of Lesotho, in convening a Continental High-Level Conference on Investing in Nutrition and Food Security in Maseru, Lesotho in 2023;

**FAVOURABLY WELCOME** and **ENDORSE** the Abidjan Declaration. A call to action to “accelerate investment, implementation and coordination to improve nutrition and food security in Africa” and **CALL ON** the African Union Commission, Member States and stakeholders to implement actions and recommendations of the Abidjan Declaration.

**URGE** Member States, stakeholders and partners to implement recommendations made in the context of the activities of the 2022 theme of the year;

**REQUEST** the African Union Commission and Member States to continue implementing the 2022 theme of the year up to 2025 in order to accelerate the achievement of targets of the Malabo Declaration and the Africa Regional Nutrition Strategy 2016- 2025, noting the negative impacts of COVID-19 pandemic, the conflict in Ukraine, climate change, and rising uncertainties in the global financial markets on food security and nutrition on the continent;

**REQUEST** the Commission to report on the progress made by Member States in addressing malnutrition in all its forms on the continent, in line with the continental and national targets to be presented in 2025.