

## SUN Movement Executive Committee (ExCom)

5 December 2024, 15:00 - 17:00 CEST (virtual)

### Summary note

#### Decisions

##### 1. Voting results for remaining Executive Committee seats:

- a. **Nancy Aburto** (UN Nutrition Representative Seat ad interim) and **Abigail Perry** (SUN Donor Network Representative Seat) were both **unanimously confirmed** with no objections to their appointments.
- b. Professor **Kola Anigo from the University of Abuja was elected** for the “Additional SUN Country/Regional Stakeholder Representative” Seat.

#### Follow-up actions

1. The **Global Support System retreat** in January will be used to further articulate the Movement’s priority areas for engagement in 2025, better align planning and resources and validate evolving thinking for the SUN Movement Strategy 2026-2030.
2. The SUN Movement Secretariat will ensure that a **calendar of regional events** is shared amongst the ExCom for inputs and engagement.
3. A discussion on digital/tech and nutrition to take place in the next ExCom session.

#### Summary note

##### 1. Opening of meeting / agenda approval / past action points

**Jessica Fanzo chaired the meeting** in the absence of her Co-Chair, Neema Lugangira, who was unable to attend due to a last-minute engagement.

The **agenda for the meeting was approved**. All action points agreed upon during the [meeting on 8 October 2024](#) had been successfully completed.

Jessica Fanzo welcomed **Kaveh Zahedi**, Director, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment, FAO to the Executive Committee (ExCom). Kaveh will take over the **Climate and Nutrition Expert** seat previously held by the Co-Chair.

##### 2. Open ExCom Seat Votes

Based on the [information provided in advance](#) of the session, ExCom members voted<sup>1</sup> in favor of the following:

- **Nancy Aburto**, Deputy Director of the Food and Nutrition Division of the FAO to step in as the **interim UN Nutrition representative on the ExCom - effective January 2025-** until the UN Nutrition Steering Committee is in a position to nominate their permanent representative on the Executive Committee.
- **Abigail Perry**, incoming **Global Programme Lead, Nutrition at the World Bank, to assume the role as SUN Donor Network Representative on the ExCom effective January 2025.**
- **Kola Matthew Anigo** (m) Professor at the University of Abuja, Nigeria to fill the vacant ‘ the “Additional SUN Country/Regional Stakeholder Representative Seat” (previously held by Neema Lugangira)

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<sup>1</sup> Aime Kwizera informed the ExCom he would recuse himself from the vote for the “Additional SUN Country/Regional Stakeholder Representative Seat” as one of the nominees was a GAIN employee.

Abigail Perry informed the ExCom that her vote would be on behalf of the UN Nutrition Network.

### 3. N4G Preparations: Update

The SUN Movement Coordinator, Afshan Khan provided an update on the preparations for the upcoming **Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit**. Afshan stressed the importance of **political mobilization** and strong **pledges** from **SUN countries**, which have historically made the strongest commitments. The 2025 Summit will be a strong foundation for the next N4G Summit that will be held in the United States in 2028 - giving the SUN Movement a foothold to champion the nutrition cause at the global level.

During December 2024, the Government of France is set to release the **Commitment guide and Principles of engagement** as well as the **Vision and Roadmap document**. There are 6 thematic groups working on thematic guides in support of commitment makers. These thematic working groups, co-chaired by UN organizations, are addressing the main areas, including nutrition, health and **social protection**, (WFP & WHO) **financing and accountability of nutrition** (World Bank and UNICEF) **Nutrition and resilience to crisis**, co-chaired by CFS and WFP, **Nutrition and transition toward sustainable food systems** (FAO and IFAD), **nutrition and gender equality (UNFPA & UNICEF), data, research, innovation and AI (WFP and FAO)**. These working groups will release thematic commitment guides in a few weeks to provide further support to countries on how their commitments can be framed in these areas.

A renewed **nutrition accountability framework**, will register and monitor commitments while promoting transparency. The upcoming **Global Nutrition Report (GNR)** platform will play a key role in recording commitments and tracking progress.

Afshan acknowledged the efforts of Patricia Ngoran, with whom she is working in close partnership along with the French Minister of Foreign Affairs and stakeholders from across all four SUN Networks to accelerate action and support SUN Countries' preparations. This includes **regional workshops** and **tailored dialogues**, facilitated by "EU for SUN" and **C4N** to assess progress on 2021 commitments, identify challenges, and encourage the creation of new or first-time commitments. The workshops will also emphasize inclusivity, transparency, and alignment with **national and regional development priorities** while sharing successful practices.

The SUN Movement Secretariat has created a dedicated space on the [SUN website](#) to share information regarding preparations for the events which will be regularly updated.

#### Discussion

ExCom members emphasized the importance of **coordinated actions** led by the **SUN networks** to ensure **meaningful** and **lasting commitments**. CSN is actively engaging in discussions about **company involvement** in the **Principles of Engagement**, a key topic ahead of the **N4G Summit** and playing a significant role in supporting countries that are ready to move forward with **new commitments**.

Generating a **drumbeat** of support, with **political mobilization** at the highest levels, particularly **Heads of State** and **Prime Ministers** will signal to the **French government** the importance of making nutrition a priority in the lead-up to the summit.

While the event in Paris is crucial, many commitments from Tokyo were made **post-summit**, so **flexibility** in the **recording process** is essential. It will be important for countries to also report on their **Tokyo N4G commitments** to ensure **accountability** and transparency.

Patricia Ngoran shared information regarding a recent **consultation meeting** that was organized in collaboration with the **African Union**, with representatives from **54 African countries** to present the **commitment guide**, highlight **principles of engagement**, and delve into the thematic areas of focus. Emphasis was placed on what constitutes a meaningful commitment—one that is **collective, political, and operational**, resulting in **tangible change**.

The importance of **regional voices**, particularly from the **African Union (AU)**, **ASEAN** and **ECLAC**, was recognised as well as the need to embed nutrition within the broader frameworks of **agriculture** and

**food systems** in order to create sustained momentum for nutrition.

Lastly, **invitations to governments** for N4G are being finalized, and once sent, CSN will begin mobilizing **civil society** accordingly. In addition to the main summit event, other **side events**, such as "**villages of solutions**," will provide opportunities for **civil society** and **SUN networks** to demonstrate their long-term commitment to **nutrition**.

**4. 2025 External Opportunities: strategically positioning the SUN Movement**

The SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) Director Jo Raisin informed the ExCom that the SMS is currently developing its work plan for 2025, which will be shared with the ExCom soon. The workplan will incorporate recommendations from the recent evaluation, as well as early discussions about the development of the SUN 4.0 strategy.

Supported by a [slide](#) (slide 2), Jo gave an overview of key external SUN Movement and nutrition moments in **2025 and how** the focus will be on **comprehensive advocacy** that integrates nutrition into various sectors, processes and initiatives throughout the year. Key to this campaign is **building SUN's presence** within broader sectors like **climate** and **food systems**, which will be central to the new strategy.



Jo emphasised how connecting **global** discussions with **regional and country-level** actions, ensuring a strong link between high-level agendas and what is happening on the ground will be central to the SMS efforts.

**Discussion**

All agreed on the importance of collaboration, sharing information and agreeing on political touchpoints as a Movement to help build an effective advocacy campaign in 2025. To be most effective, the **Movement** needs to define clear collective goals, focusing on specific outcomes or shifts it wants to achieve through these types of events. The **Global Support System (GSS)** retreat in **January** will be a key opportunity to start this process and to align planning processes.

There was agreement that the SUN Movement can leverage its membership in the **G20 Alliance against Hunger and Poverty**. With over 80 countries endorsing the alliance and strong leadership from **Brazil**, it aims to create a policy basket of evidence-based **nutrition** interventions and match countries that have had success with those looking to learn. **South Africa's G20 Presidency agenda is prioritising food security** which might also align well with nutrition, and **Brazil's hosting of COP30** next year provides another opportunity to integrate nutrition into climate action.

Regional events, such as the **Africa Food Systems Forum** (Dakar, September 2025) as well as the upcoming **AU Heads of State meetings** and CAADP Post **Malabo** follow-up are extremely relevant opportunities given that 44 of 66 SUN countries are in sub-saharan Africa).

Kefilwe Moalosi then gave a [presentation](#) on the **CAADP Strategy And Action Plan: 2026-2035 in advance of the AU Head of States Extraordinary Summit on the Post-Malabo Comprehensive Africa**

[Agriculture Development Program \(CAADP\) Agenda](#) taking place in Kampala in January 2025. The CAADP strategy is undergoing a transition to focus more on food systems, with a new phase starting in 2026 (to be endorsed at the Extraordinary Summit). **Nutrition, previously absent in the original CAADP processes, is now a key focus through the CAADP Nutrition Initiative.**

Following its planned endorsement in Kampala, the CAADP strategy will be launched at the **AU Summit** in March 2024. The strategy will also be a part of the **N4G Summit** in March 2025, where African heads of state will commit to improving nutrition investments. **A major focus is on increasing investments in agriculture, creating jobs, and fostering economic stability across Africa.**

### **Discussion**

The importance of **civil society networks**, particularly through the **non-state actor task force** and the active role of **parliamentarians** (via Africa Food Systems Parliamentary Network) in championing nutrition within the CAADP process was highlighted.

**The offer of the representative for UNOPS** to share its experience and networks to connect dots on climate resilience, loss and damage and the country-led responses through its initiatives in countries, including through the [NDC partnership](#)<sup>2</sup> was welcomed.

The **CAADP strategy** is a **living document** and will continue to evolve to ensure that relevant issues and sectors are well integrated.

#### **5. New areas for SUN Movement engagement: eg. Climate, Digital & Tech**<sup>3</sup>.

**Kaveh Zahedi** was invited to provide a high-level reflection on **integrating nutrition** into the **climate agenda**. As **climate finance** is evolving (the **target for climate financing** increasing from **\$100 billion** to **\$300 billion**, and further to **\$1.3 trillion**) countries will be pressured to reframe their development actions to align with **climate change** goals in order to meet financial targets. This presents an opportunity for **nutrition**.

For COP 30, the SUN Movement needs to get our collective messaging right and find the right hook to enter the relevant conversations within the COP process.

- The formal process - ensuring the nutrition element is embedded in the work underway to get agriculture and food security into the **'big ticket' planning around the NDCs and NAPs**
- The **presidency's agenda** - Brazil hasn't yet named the president so priorities are not yet clear BUT given what we have seen on zero hunger and the Global Alliance - there is a good chance we will see something on hunger. But there is still work to connect the parallel worlds of climate and agriculture, food security and nutrition.
- There is also space to revive the work on **biodiversity and nutrition** early next year.
- The **'just transition'** concept might offer an entry point for **nutrition** and **climate** discussions, particularly regarding the implications for **food systems**. A **joint submission** by the **SUN Movement** to the **Work Programme on Just Transition Pathways** is something worth further exploration.

#### **6. Other business**

Jo Raisin gave a brief overview of the initial thinking and process around the evolution of the SUN Movement in a fourth and final phase (see [slides 3-4](#)) that will aim to balance the **broader integration of nutrition as an outcome in relevant sectors** whilst maintaining **country ownership** as its center. A primary objective will be to intensify **localization efforts**, ensuring that capacity building, knowledge transfer, and responsibilities are handed over to local institutions who can drive change to ensure a **responsible exit** of the Movement and a legacy that continues beyond 2030.

Diversifying financing is also a crucial part of the strategy. With the growing availability of **climate and humanitarian funding**, SUN recognizes the need to leverage these resources to support nutrition initiatives. This will involve working within these established funding structures, including **private sector engagement**, to secure investments in nutrition. The SUN Movement must look for

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<sup>2</sup> National Defined Contributions

<sup>3</sup> Due to Co-Chair Neema's absence, the discussion on **digital/tech** was postponed for another meeting.

opportunities to strengthen the link between **nutrition outcomes** and broader **health agendas** recognizing that these areas must be bundled together for greater impact. Finally, an emphasis on **youth** and **gender** will underpin all of SUN's efforts, ensuring that both the voices of young people and gender equality remain central to the movement's work.

The strategy will be developed through a **consultative process**, engaging regions, countries, and stakeholders, ensuring that it remains inclusive, sustainable, and impactful in the years to come.

### **Discussion**

The importance of using the upcoming **evaluation** to gain a clearer understanding of both the **challenges** and **opportunities** that lie ahead was highlighted. **Networks** will be consulted to determine how to move forward, keeping in mind that the **success** of the Movement is **constituency-based**, and the **country-led** and **country-driven** principles are its **unique value proposition**. The **GSS** retreat will be the first moment to validate some of these ideas followed by the **ExCom retreat** which will look at the evaluation, and work to tie the draft evaluation and strategic direction more closely together.

### **7. Summary, agreed actions and concluding remarks**

The Co-Chair summarized the key points of the meetings:

- There's a **clear role** for the **Global Support System (GSS)** to support countries in developing and delivering **N4G** commitments and to help us show up as a united force at **N4G** and beyond, continuing momentum within **regions** and **countries** over the coming year.
- A broader objective for **nutrition progress** is needed, and we must coordinate and collaborate around key **events** and **opportunities** in the next 18 months, ensuring **information sharing** and **collaboration** across networks. This will help us present a **unified voice** and increase our **influence**.
- The **GSS January retreat** will be a crucial opportunity to strengthen our collaborations, advocacy efforts, and joint approach.
- The **Malabo** discussions were an excellent start, with strong support from **civil society** and **UNOPS**, offering to connect the dots between **climate resilience, loss and damage**, and **country-led responses** via the **NDC** partnerships.
- Important insights were presented by Kaveh around the growing space for **nutrition and climate**, and the opportunity for **COP 30** to emphasize the role of **food systems** and **agriculture** in Brazil. This will be an important moment to align and deliver a **collective message**.
- In regards to the next SUN Movement strategy, we must continue pushing to ensure **nutrition** is seen as an outcome across **sectors** and not as a standalone silo. We also need to ensure that the **country leadership** and **ownership** of the SUN Movement remains a core focus.

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### **ANNEX 1. Participation:**

**ExCom Participants:** Patricia Ngoran (West and Central Africa), Abigail Perry (UNN), Christine Campeau (CSN), Neil Watkins (SDN), Mr. Aimé Garlas Kwizera, Florence Sibomana (SUN Youth Representative), Jessica Fanzo (Climate and Nutrition Expert), Kyoko Shibata Okamura (Finance Expert), Nazeer Ahmed (Asia Representative), Said Shamsul Islam Shams (Humanitarian Expert), Shabina Raza (Additional SUN Country Seat), Kefilwe Moalosi (Additional SUN Country Seat)  
**Ex-Officio Members:** Afshan Khan (SUN Movement Coordinator, UN ASG), Peter Komol (UNOPS Geneva Financial Management Officer) and Katrin Lichtenberg (UNOPS Senior Portfolio Officer) representing UNOPS on behalf of Andrew Kirkwood

**Apologies:** Andrew Kirkwood (UNOPS, Ginevra Director), Elisa Gamero (SUN LAC Representative), Mohamed Farah (SUN Country Representative, countries in Humanitarian Contexts), Neema Lugangira, (Additional SUN Country Seat), George Kembo (Southern Africa)

**OBSERVERS - SUN Networks:** Alex Newlands (CSN), Barbara Reh binder (CSN), Hannah Rowlands (SBN - WFP) Ilaria Schibba (WFP - UN-N), Ritta Shine (GAIN - SBN), Lena Dreyer (GIZ, SDN Facilitator)

**SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS):** Joanne Raisin, Maria Pizzini, Paul Mazza, Michelle Link, Irina Zodrow, Francisca Cisterna-Gomez, Toby Johnson, Sonia Ancellin-Panzani, Tendai Gunda