

# Media Update

6 February 2017

---

## UNFPA-UNICEF

### Statement

## The world must make faster progress to end female genital mutilation by 2030

***Statement by UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin and UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake on the 2017 International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM***

**NEW YORK, 6 February 2017** – “It irreparably damages girls’ bodies, inflicting excruciating pain. It causes extreme emotional trauma that can last a lifetime.

“It increases the risk of deadly complications during pregnancy, labour and childbirth, endangering both mother and child.

“It robs girls of their autonomy and violates their human rights.

“It reflects the low status of girls and women and reinforces gender inequality, fueling intergenerational cycles of discrimination and harm.

“It is female genital mutilation and cutting. And despite all the progress we have made toward abolishing this violent practice, millions of girls -- many of them under the age of 15 -- will be forced to undergo it this year alone. Sadly, they will join the almost 200 million girls and women around the world who are already living with the damage FGM/C causes – and whose communities are already affected by its impact.

“In 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals recognized the close connection between FGM/C, gender inequality, and development – and reignited global action to end FGM/C by 2030.



“In 2016, more than 2,900 communities, representing more than 8.4 million people living in countries where UNFPA and UNICEF work jointly to end FGM/C, declared they had abandoned the practice.

“In 2017, we must demand faster action to build on this progress. That means calling on governments to enact and enforce laws and policies that protect the rights of girls and women and prevent FGM/C.

“It means creating greater access to support services for those at risk of undergoing FGM/C and those who have survived it. It also means driving greater demand for those services, providing families and communities with information about the harm FGM/C causes – and the benefits to be gained by ending it.

“And ultimately, it means families and communities taking action themselves and refusing to permit their girls to endure the violation of FGM/C.

“Let us make this the generation that abolishes FGM/C once and for all – and in doing so, help create a healthier, better world for all.”

###

Please also find attached a FactSheet.

### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **About UNFPA**

UNFPA works to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

#### **About UNICEF**

UNICEF promotes the rights and wellbeing of every child, in everything we do. Together with our partners, we work in 190 countries and territories to translate that commitment into practical action, focusing special effort on reaching the most vulnerable and excluded children, to the benefit of all children, everywhere.

For more information about UNICEF and its work for children, visit [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org).

Follow UNICEF on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

### **For more information, please contact:**

Lothar Mikulla, UNFPA New York, Tel: +1 212 297 2629, [mikulla@unfpa.org](mailto:mikulla@unfpa.org)  
Georgina Thompson, UNICEF New York, Tel: +1 917 238 1559, [gthompson@unicef.org](mailto:gthompson@unicef.org)



# WFP

Press Release

## GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN CONTINUES STRONG SUPPORT WITH WHEAT CONTRIBUTIONS

**ISLAMABAD** – The Government of Pakistan remains the largest host government donor for the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) worldwide with its recent contributions of wheat totaling 50,000 metric tonnes, valued at approximately USD 19.9 million, to WFP operations in Pakistan.

Wheat – in the form of bread – is a staple food item in Pakistan and plays a vital role in the food security and nutrition of its people. The wheat flour donated by the Government is fortified with an enhanced vitamin and mineral mix at local mills in Peshawar and Multan, as part of the National and Provincial Fortification Alliance, to maximize nutritional value.

“WFP welcomes the Government’s recent contributions and its continued commitment to partner with us,” said WFP Country Director Finbarr Curran. “WFP is committed to working with the Government in its recovery and development activities to achieve its Vision 2025 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The partnership aims to ensure the success of Government-led efforts to improve food and nutrition security, including stunting prevention and capacity augmentation, among vulnerable communities affected by law and order operations alongside other vulnerable population groups across the country. These activities aim to complement the Government of Pakistan’s reconstruction and development efforts, contributing to the establishment of peace, stability and social cohesion in the region.

The in-kind contributions are supporting people who remain displaced, and returnees for six months following their resettlement. WFP’s relief and



recovery programmes include livelihoods/disaster risk reduction, and nutrition/education support for displaced and returnee populations.

The Government of Pakistan donated 174,000 metric tonnes of wheat in 2016 and is the largest host donor and second largest donor to WFP in Pakistan for the past four years, after the United States. WFP thanks our partners and the government for their continuous support.

# # #

WFP is the world's leading humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in 80 countries.

Follow us on Twitter @wfp\_media; @WFPakistan; Facebook: WFPakistan

### **For more information please contact:**

Mahira Afzal, WFP Islamabad, Mobile: +92 345 855 9333,

[mahira.afzal@wfp.org](mailto:mahira.afzal@wfp.org)

Haseeb Khalid, WFP/Islamabad, Mobile: +92 300 0551914,

[haseeb.khalid@wfp.org](mailto:haseeb.khalid@wfp.org)