

October 21, 2020

Dear Consul,

Many thanks for your message which I was pleased to share with the Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP).

At the UN Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), as part of WFP's family, we are deeply humbled that our organization has been honoured with the Nobel Peace Prize and we recognize that this would never have happened without the enduring support of our partners in the UN system and NGO community, as well as the governments who provide funding for our operations in more than 80 countries across the world and the host governments that partner with us on the ground.

The Prize is a recognition that ending hunger is a critical step towards peace. As the Nobel Committee has noted, the link between hunger and armed conflict is a vicious circle: war and conflict can cause food insecurity and hunger, just as hunger and food insecurity can cause latent conflicts to flare up and trigger the use of violence. The goal of zero hunger will never be achieved unless we also put an end to war and armed conflict.

The Prize is also a tribute to the sacrifice and commitment of WFP's 18,000 staff, many of whom work on the frontlines of hunger and conflict, and to our colleagues who have lost their lives, delivering food assistance that offers hope to some of the most vulnerable people, living in some of the most remote and insecure locations. Often working behind the scenes of the humanitarian response to many crises around the world, at UNHRD we are proud to contribute to WFP's mission and support our humanitarian partners in their emergency preparedness and response efforts.

While the award was given to WFP, this is everyone's peace prize. From the people who pay taxes in the countries whose governments provide so much of WFP's funding, to the 100 million people we serve every year, the award underlines the importance of food assistance as a foundation for future stability and prosperity.

We recognize that one of the greatest contributions it can make to humanity is to provide a voice to the 690 million hungry people in the world. The Nobel Peace Prize gives us a platform to make their needs heard and to mobilize support for the food assistance they need.

Please accept, Consul, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Sincerely,


Marta Laurienzo

UNHRD Network Coordinator
and Brindisi Hub Manager