



## **USDA McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program and WFP School Meals Partnership**

Side event on the margins of the second regular session of the Executive Board with interpretation

Wednesday, 15 November 2017, 13:15–14:45

(to be preceded by a light lunch in the Peace Garden)

Auditorium, WFP Headquarters

You are kindly invited to the side event on the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) McGovern-Dole Food For Education and Child Nutrition Program (McGovern-Dole) and Local and Regional Food Aid Procurement Program (LRP), which will be co-chaired by Jocelyn Brown (Deputy Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA) and David Beasley (Executive Director, WFP), along with Annalisa Conte (Country Director for Kenya, WFP), Abdi Habat (Director of Basic Education, Ministry of Education, Kenya), and Sarah Gordon-Gibson (Country Director for Lao People's Democratic Republic, WFP). Additional speakers will include representatives from the WFP Office of Social Protection and Safety Nets, David Ryckembusch, Steven Were Omamo, WFP Deputy Director of Policy and Programme Division, Günter Hemrich, Deputy Director of Nutrition and Food Systems from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and by Mr Sana Jatta, Director East and Southern Africa Division from the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

The event will focus on the partnership between the USDA and WFP to strengthen national school meals programmes through McGovern-Dole and LRP. The presentations will highlight the importance of the partnership and the achievements to date in building effective and sustainable school meals programmes, citing country case-studies in Kenya and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. An open discussion will follow the presentations, highlighting the partnership and collaboration between the Rome-based agencies.

Given the multifaceted nature of sustainable national school meals programmes, especially those linked to local agriculture and requiring a national funding commitment, continued innovative and diverse partnerships are critical. Drawing on the expertise of the Rome-based agencies has led to the development of the Home-Grown School Feeding Framework Resource as an important guiding document. In addition to raising awareness of what has been achieved so far, presentations will be forward looking on how the partnership can be further strengthened and engaged with other critical stakeholders, donors, government partners and the private sector.

We look forward to welcoming you.