

PRESS RELEASE



Federal Minister Dr Gerd Müller Will Take Over as Chair of Welthungerhilfe's Ambassador Council

Berlin, 2021-11-25. The chair of the Welthungerhilfe Ambassador Council will change hands, passing from Dr Erik Bettermann to Dr Gerd Müller, a German federal minister. The Ambassador Council consists of 30 people who advise Welthungerhilfe on a voluntary basis. Its members have backgrounds in business, politics, or culture so as to represent the breadth of the German public. They support Welthungerhilfe's board of directors and executive management by reinforcing our voice in the global fight against hunger and poverty. They raise our issues in various networks and are available for contact at events.

“We would like to extend warm thanks to Dr Betterman for his many years of service as the chair of the Welthungerhilfe Ambassador Council. At the same time, we are happy to have Gerd Müller join our side as an experienced and highly dedicated compatriot in the fight against hunger and poverty. As the federal minister for economic cooperation and development, he was responsible for bringing about significant progress in rural development. The effects of climate change and of the COVID-19 pandemic present new challenges for our work in the coming years throughout the world. We can count on the members of the council for crucial support and advice,” says Marlehn Thieme, chair of the board of Welthungerhilfe.

Gerd Müller, German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development: “Throughout the world, over 800 million people are going hungry again, and 15,000 children are dying of hunger every day. After years of great progress, these figures have begun to rise. This is an outrage, especially considering that we have the knowledge and technology to end world hunger. We must now act decisively and place the fight against hunger and malnutrition at the very top of the global agenda. I want to support this goal with all my might as a member of the Welthungerhilfe Ambassador Council as well. Aid organisations like Welthungerhilfe are often the last lifeline for millions of people in need. I would like to thank all of their staff for their tireless commitment, even in extremely difficult circumstances in locations such as Afghanistan and the crisis zone centred in Syria. They provide not only emergency aid for survival but also forward-looking peace policy by playing a significant role in breaking the vicious cycle of need, poverty, conflicts, flight, and displacement and thereby enabling long-term development. I am glad for the opportunity to be more closely involved in this important work going forward.”

You will find further information as well as a list of all members of the Welthungerhilfe Ambassador Council at www.welthungerhilfe.org/news.

Welthungerhilfe is one of the largest private aid organisations in Germany and enjoys both political and religious independence. It is fighting for “Zero Hunger by 2030”. Since being founded in 1962, it has provided funding of EUR 4.2 billion for more than 10,369 overseas projects in 70 countries. Welthungerhilfe bases its efforts on the principle of help for self-help, which it implements with measures ranging from rapid disaster relief to rehabilitation to long-term development cooperation projects with national and international partner organisations.

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