

Transcript of  
Dr. Hwa A. Lim  
Speech at Dance Day  
“Dance for Zero Hunger”  
UNESCO CID SFS Managing Office  
Fremont, California, USA  
April 29, 2017



Dear Friends,

Today is World Dance Day, and today's date is April 29.

CID of UNESCO, headquartered in Paris, has designated April 29 of each year as the World Dance Day for more than three decades now, since 1982. UNESCO is United Nations' Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization; CID is *Conseil International de la Danse*.



Carmelita C., president, AHSA, addressing the crowd and the purpose of “Dance for Zero Hunger”.

This year is a little more special because CID of UNESCO is working with UN World Food Programme (WFP) to co-launch this Dance Day with the theme  
“Dance for Zero Hunger”



Decorations for "Dance for Zero Hunger."

UN World Food Programme, as you may already know, delivers food to 80 million people in 80 countries daily, making it the world's largest humanitarian organization.

We are the more fortunate ones. Most of us here would tell me that we are here to dance as a form of exercise to stay in shape. It may be hard for us to even think that there are people out there going hungry and starving. Many of us can feel and relate when the misfortunes are close by, or when they happen to someone whom we know. But this needs not be the case.

Some of you may even ask, "If you do not have food, why talk about dancing?" This is where you miss the point completely. We are here to dance to bring awareness that there are people out there who are not as fortunate as we are and are starving, and that may be more of us should give them a helping hand.

We are dancing for a cause! For "Zero Hunger." "Zero Hunger" are not unattainable goals.

In the US, we like to say it in a better way: the estimated number of households that were food insecure was 15.8 million, or one in eight, in 2016.

An infographic with a yellow background. On the left, it features the number "2" in a large font, followed by the words "ZERO HUNGER" in a smaller font. Below this text is a white icon of a bowl with three wavy lines above it, representing steam or food. On the right side, the number "800" is written in a very large, bold, black font. Below "800", the words "MILLION PEOPLE" are written in a smaller, bold, black font. Underneath that, the text "ARE UNDERNOURISHED, MORE THAN A BILLION TONS OF FOOD NEVER MAKE IT TO THE TABLE" is written in a smaller, bold, black font. At the bottom right, there is a small globe icon followed by the text "The Rockefeller Foundation".

Worldwide, every day too many men and women across the globe struggle to feed their children a nutritious meal. In a world where we produce enough food to feed everyone, from Africa and Asia to Latin America and the Near East, 795 million people – one in nine – still go to bed on an empty stomach each night, that is, they do not get enough food to lead a normal, active life.

Even more – one in three – suffer from some form of malnutrition.

Eradicating hunger and malnutrition is one of the great challenges of our time. Not only do the consequences of not enough or the wrong food cause suffering and poor health, they also slow progress in many other areas of development like education and employment.

“Zero Hunger” – pledges to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture – is the priority of the United Nations’ World Food Programme (WFP).

To this end, every single day, WFP and its partners work to bring us closer to a zero hunger world. With their humanitarian food assistance, WFP provides nutritious food to those in urgent need. Meanwhile WFP complementary programmes address the root causes of hunger, building the resilience of communities so we do not need to keep saving the same lives each year.



With this, I hope you will help bring this “Zero Hunger Pledge” of World Food Programme to the awareness of more people.



“Dance for Zero Hunger.”



Volunteers (Haiqing Y., Geno C., and Sue L.) helping with registrations.



A subset of the people who make possible “Dance for Zero Hunger”.