Application from Action Contre la Faim International for admission into official relations with WHO

1. General information

(a) Name and address of the headquarters

Action Contre la Faim International
14/16 Boulevard Douaumont
CS 80060
75854
Paris CEDEX 17
France

Website: http://www.acf-international.org/

(b) Link to the entity’s profile in the WHO Register of non-State actors


2. Aims/purpose/objective of the entity

Established in 1999, Action Contre la Faim International has as its mission to save lives by eliminating hunger through the prevention, detection and treatment of malnutrition, especially during and after emergency situations of conflict, war and natural disaster. From crisis to sustainability, the network tackles the underlying causes of malnutrition and its effects.

3. Other criteria for the admission of the entity into official relations with WHO

International structure/scope: Action Contre la Faim International is a network with national headquarters in Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America. It is represented in over 40 countries through its offices and activities.

Constitution/by-laws: The basis for the network is the International Protocol, signed by all the network members. In 2003 the network adopted the International Governing and Operating Rules.
**Governing body:** The network is governed by the International Chairmen’s Committee, which is composed of the president of each of the five network members and an international chairman. Each network member has one vote, with the exception of Action Contre la Faim France, which has two votes as the founding member of the network.

**Administrative structure:** The International Executive Committee, composed of the executive directors of the network members, is responsible for the assignment of new missions to a network member, which then manages the missions independently through its own structures, unless otherwise agreed.

**Financial information:** Grants received from institutional donors, such as the United Nations and the European Commission, and from individual governments are the primary source of funding for the entity, accounting for 70% of its income. Funds generated through fundraising targeted at individuals, such as campaigns, account for the other 30%.

### 4. Collaboration with WHO

(a) **Activities carried out with WHO over the past three years**

Collaboration between WHO and Action Contre la Faim International focused on the scaling up of evidence-informed nutrition activities prioritized in the WHO Comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition.\(^1\) At the global level, the network has provided technical contributions to the development of nutrition guidelines and tools, and at the field level the collaboration has mainly involved providing support to governments to integrate nutrition activities into regular health services.

Action Contre la Faim International provided input to the first draft version of the sections of the eleventh revision of the International Classification of Diseases that relate to nutritional disorders, and continues to be involved in the peer review of the draft. It also contributed to the *Guideline: updates on the management of severe acute malnutrition in infants and children.*\(^2\)

As a member of the Strategic Advisory Group for the Global Nutrition Cluster, Action Contre la Faim International has been working to integrate WHO recommendations on malnutrition management into the basic health package at the field level. It has been a member of the Global Health Cluster since 2014, working to highlight the importance of nutrition as a health topic in emergencies, and it participated in the discussions on how the efficiency of the cluster at the global level could be improved.

At the country level, Action Contre la Faim International collaborated with WHO on the issue of nutrition and mental health in Myanmar, and contributed to the Ebola response by improving the surveillance capacity of response teams and organizing contact tracer training. In Nepal, it organized a workshop on the assessment of the health system and carried out a joint health system assessment at various levels.

\(^1\) The plan is available at: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/113048/1/WHO_NMH_NHD_14.1_eng.pdf?ua=1 (accessed 8 October 2015).

(b) Planned collaborative activities with WHO for the coming three-year period

Action Contre la Faim International will collaborate with WHO on finalizing a revised manual for physicians and other senior health workers on the management of severe acute malnutrition in infants and children, based on the WHO guideline on the same topic. It will also collaborate with WHO on disseminating and implementing the guidance, including by identifying gaps and giving feedback from the field to WHO. It will provide support to WHO and governments with regard to the integration of nutrition interventions into the basic health package at the national and local levels by advocating improved management of severe acute malnutrition, integrated inpatient care for severe acute malnutrition in paediatric wards, and updated medical curricula at the national and regional levels.

Action Contre la Faim International will continue to contribute data to the WHO global database on the implementation of nutrition actions, for example on the coverage of interventions on the management of severe acute malnutrition, and will contribute to the Technical Expert Advisory Group on Nutrition Monitoring jointly established by WHO and UNICEF, with a view to standardizing nutrition survey methods.

Through its sexual and reproductive health programmes, Action Contre la Faim International will work on improving maternal and newborn care at the field level by implementing WHO recommendations and disseminating *Pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum and newborn care: a guide for essential practice*, and will contribute to the development of recommendations on maternal and neonatal care. It will also contribute to improving the outcomes of nutrition programmes by reducing the risk of water-, sanitation- and hygiene-related diseases through the operationalization of the practical solutions for policies and programmes set out in a document on that issue to be launched at the end of 2015, and by producing an operational manual on nutrition which will complement that document.

At the country level, there will be technical cooperation regarding nutritional surveillance systems in Afghanistan and continuing collaboration on nutrition and mental health in Myanmar and on improving response to Ebola. Action Contre la Faim International is also active in the Syrian Arab Republic, jointly leading with UNICEF the nutrition sector response to the emergency, and is collaborating with WHO on the health sector response.

5. Other relevant information

Due diligence and risk assessment conducted by the Secretariat on the entity concluded that an application from Action Contre la Faim International could be presented to the Executive Board for its consideration.

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