

Office of the
Director-General

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*NMH for
draft reply*

27 February 2004

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From Ambassador Carlos Antonio da Rocha Paranhos
Alternate Permanent Representative

To: Dr. Jong-Wook LEE
Director-General of the World Health Organization
Fax: 022 791-4846

Ref.: Draft Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health

Excellency,

I have the honour to forward, as coordinator of the Group of 77 and China in Geneva, a letter informing on the Group's position towards WHO draft Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew, Mr. Director-General, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Carlos Antonio da Rocha Paranhos
Ambassador
Alternate Permanent Representative



*Permanent Mission of Brazil
to the United Nations in Geneva
71, av. Louis Casarí - 1216 Cointrin
Geneva - Switzerland*

Geneva, 27 February 2004

To
His Excellency
Dr. Jong-Wook LEE
Director-General of the World Health Organization

Excellency,

On behalf of the Group of 77 and China in Geneva, I have the honour to refer to the draft Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health, which was discussed during the 113th Executive Board.

The Group of 77 and China wishes to examine thoroughly all the implications of the proposed draft Strategy with an open and constructive attitude, favouring dialogue, a transparent and holistic approach as well as a balanced perspective on the subject. However, due to concerns relating to substantive aspects of the draft Strategy, it considers necessary that further and in-depth consultations be held with relevant stakeholders and other sectors involved in our countries and with WHO.

With this objective, the Group of 77 and China has decided to establish an informal open-ended working group in order to discuss the WHO initiative, its conceptual framework and possible consequences. This exercise is aimed at identifying more clearly the aspects on which we would have substantive comments to submit to WHO. It is the intention of the Group to invite, in due time, to a comprehensive dialogue, experts of your Organization involved with the draft Strategy.

Please accept, Mr. Director-General, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Carlos Antonio da Rocha Paranhos
Ambassador
Alternate Permanent Representative