Mid-term Review of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025)

Briefing for Mission Focal Points, Geneva, 19 March 2020

Member States have the opportunity to send comments and questions via email to

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The aim of the Nutrition Decade is to accelerate implementation of the ICN2 commitments, achieve the Global Nutrition and diet-related NCD targets by 2025 and contribute to the realisation of the SDGs by 2030.
Mid-term Review – Objectives

■ To **assess and evaluate the achievements** in individual policy areas of the ICN2 Framework for Action, as reflected in the action areas of the Work Programme of the Decade, over the time period from 2016 to 2020.

■ To **revise the living part of the Work Programme of the Decade** as appropriate, including the identification of focus areas for priority action during the second phase of the Decade.
Mid-term Review – Process

2nd progress report for UN Secretary General - Progress 2018-2019

Foresight paper - Future priorities

Stakeholder Consultation Process

E-consultation by UNSCN

Develop revised Work Programme of the Nutrition Decade

High level Meeting in New York (July 2020)
Summary of achievements over the period from 2016 to 2020

Dr Anna Lartey
Director, Nutrition and Food Systems Division, FAO
Work Programme for the Nutrition Decade

The Work Programme for the Nutrition Decade **emphasizes action, not just advocacy**

The Work Programme embraces **six cross-cutting and connected action areas**, based on the **60 recommendations of the ICN2 Framework for Action**
Commitments

The Decade, building on the **ICN2 commitments**, continues to **raise awareness**, **fuel discussion** and **stimulate action**, bringing countries and stakeholders together to collaborate in novel ways reflecting the new nutrition reality.

Nations, regions, cities and communities are acting for improved nutrition for all, everywhere at all times.

Three countries have formally submitted country-specific commitments under the Decade: **Brazil**, **Ecuador** and **Italy**.
Action Networks

Regional

**Fiji:** Ending Childhood Obesity in the Pacific

**Chile:** Healthy Food Environments in the Americas

**Brazil:**
Reducing Salt Consumption
Promote Food Guidelines
Food and Nutrition Security Governance
Public Purchasing of Family-produced Food
Sustainable School Feeding

Global

**Norway:** Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition

**France/Australia/Chile:**
Nutrition Labelling

**Italy:** Traditional, Healthy and Sustainable Diets

**Germany:** Provision of Healthy School Meals
Action Area 1 – Sustainable, resilient food systems for healthy diets

Highlights

- Preparation underway CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition
- World Food Safety day declaration (December 2018)
- First International Conference on Food Safety (Addis Ababa, February 2019)
- FAO/WHO Sustainable healthy diets guiding principles - to guide action under the Decade and for achieving the SDGs
- UNGA Resolutions adopted in December 2019:
  - 2021: International Year of Fruits and Vegetables
  - 29 September: International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste
Action Area 2 – Aligned health systems providing universal coverage of essential nutrition actions

**Highlights**

- UN Resolutions 73/132 and 74/2, adopted in 2018 and 2019 respectively, on Universal Health Coverage
  - Mainstreaming a package of nutrition interventions in the health system will be essential
- UN Global Action Plan on Wasting (FAO, WHO, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and OCHA)
- Declaration of the G20 Meeting of Health Ministers (Okayama, October 2019) committed to accelerate efforts to enhance nutrition and address all forms of malnutrition
Action Area 3 – Social protection and nutrition education

Highlights

■ Most countries in Asia and the Pacific have increased investments in social protection over the past two decades. Yet countries still only spend around 14 percent of total government expenditures on social protection, compared to an average of 42 percent of government expenditure in Europe.

■ Most countries have some form of school health and nutrition programme, although some of them seem to have deteriorated in recent years, and schools are still underused as a platform to promote healthy diets.
Action Area 4 – Trade and investment for improved nutrition

Highlights

- Codex Alimentarius Commission agreed in July 2018 to undertake new work to develop guidance on front-of-pack nutrition labelling, which is expected to impact national nutrition policy decisions and international trade.

- International Forum on Food Safety and Trade (Geneva, April 2019) explored opportunities and challenges in strengthening food safety systems, particularly through trade, while consumers have access to a great quantity and diversity of food with the substantial expansion of global trade.
Action Area 5 – Safe and supportive environments for nutrition at all ages

Highlights

■ Status report 2018 on national implementation of the International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes: 136 out of 194 countries had some form of legal measure

■ 5th Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Annual Gathering and Mayors Summit (Montpellier, October 2019) focused on food environments

■ 2019 Prince Mahidol Awards Conference (Bangkok, February 2019) focused on NCDs and a whole-of-society approach

■ International Symposium on Understanding the Double Burden of Malnutrition (DBM) for Effective Interventions (Vienna, December 2019): ensuring an enabled environment for good nutrition at each life stage
Action Area 6 – Strengthened governance and accountability for nutrition

Highlights

■ UN Resolution 73/132, the General Assembly reiterated its call for the scaling up of national commitments and increasing investments for nutrition under the Decade's Work Programme

■ CFS High Level Panel of Experts for Food Security and Nutrition released recommendations for managing multi-stakeholder partnerships for food security and nutrition in June 2018

■ Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition (Madrid, October 2018) committed to build a network of parliamentary alliances to support achievement of SDG2 and progress towards implementing the ICN2 commitments and the Decade

■ UNSCN and UN Network for SUN: UN Nutrition
Contribution by UN Agencies

**FAO:** FAO School Food and Nutrition Framework; FAO Framework for the Urban Food Agenda

**WHO:** tracked achievement global nutrition targets; normative products (essential nutrition actions)

**IAEA:** IAEA Doubly Labelled Water Database

**IFAD:** Nutrition Action Plan 2019-2025; nutrition-sensitive value chain guide

**UNICEF:** supported programmes on breastfeeding and complementary feeding; nutrition and WASH; nutrition-sensitive social protection

**WFP:** integrated nutrition-sensitive approaches across the humanitarian-development nexus

**UNSCN:** working towards maximizing UN policy coherence and accountability; advocating on nutrition; exploring new and emerging nutrition-related issues

**Special Rapporteur on the right to food:** 2019 Report to General Assembly focused SDGs through a human rights-based approach to nutrition policies

**UN Inter-Agency Task Force NCDs:** joint missions raising the profile of nutrition within NCD investment cases
Contribution by Non-State Actors

Civil Society ICN2 Group
- Promoted effective participation and engagement of those most affected by hunger and malnutrition in reshaping nutrition policies
- Facilitated dissemination of information on the Nutrition Decade among its members, and organized preparatory dialogues prior to official meetings

Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples’ Mechanism for CFS
- Promoted the alignment of food and nutrition messages and policy proposals towards a collective vision for the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition

International Coalition for Advocacy on Nutrition
- Focused on mobilizing more resources and policies for nutrition while holding N4G commitment makers accountable
Contribution by Non-State Actors

International Food and Beverage Alliance (IFBA)
- Committed to align with the WHO target to eliminate industrially produced trans-fat from the global food supply by 2023
- Worked in a number of countries in partnerships to improve global health through public-private-partnerships

Private Sector Mechanism for the relations with the CFS
- Organized a consultation to provide the wider private sector network the opportunity to dialogue with the joint FAO/WHO Secretariat of the Decade on their contribution to the Decade, and to discuss potential future priority action

Scaling Up Nutrition Movement
- Included food systems component in the 2019 SUN Movement Joint-Assessments
- Tracked public financial allocations for nutrition in 51 countries
- Multi-stakeholder platforms engage with parliaments in 45 countries
Summary of suggested focus areas for future priorities for the period 2021-2025

Dr Francesco Branca
Director, Department of Nutrition and Food Safety, WHO
The remainder of the Nutrition Decade presents a critical window of opportunity to accelerate progress towards the eradication of hunger and all forms of malnutrition, helping countries to achieve the SDGs, leaving no one behind.
Mid-term Review – Foresight paper

- Developed by the **joint FAO/WHO Nutrition Decade Secretariat** as a background paper for the Mid-term Review process

- **Objective:** to serve as input for a serious of consultations and dialogues with stakeholders at different levels

- **Outlines future opportunities for action**
  - Action Areas
  - New SMART commitments
  - Partnerships

Action Area 1 – Sustainable, resilient food systems for healthy diets

Food systems need to enhance food security and nutrition for all, be inclusive and have a positive impact on the health of people and planet and be economically viable.

- Increased recognition of the role of agriculture and food systems
- Promote crop diversification
- Create healthy food environments
- Implement measures to ensure Food Safety standards
Action Area 2 – Aligned health systems providing universal coverage of essential nutrition actions

Many effective essential nutrition actions are delivered through the health systems.

- Scale up the integration of **Essential Nutrition-Actions** into **Universal Health Coverage** plans:
  - Accelerate progress on **wasting reduction programmes in children under 5 years of age**
  - Include **Nutrition in health sector budgets and invest** in integrated data systems

UN Security Council voted on resolution S/RES/2417 (2018) on Armed conflict and food security
Action Area 3 – Social protection and nutrition education

The potential of social protection and education to address all forms of malnutrition needs to be more fully realized.

- Consider specific nutrition measures in social protection systems
- Better leverage schools for food and nutrition education
- Increase the number and quality of nutrition professionals
- Implement policies to ensure nutrition labelling on food products
Action Area 4 – Trade and investment for improved nutrition

Trade and investment policy are influencing malnutrition in all its forms, rather than driving healthy diets.

- Consider the impact of trade policies on food systems and maximize action to improve food security and nutrition
- Invest responsibly into agriculture and food systems
Action Area 5 – Safe and supportive environments for nutrition at all ages

There remains much scope to scale-up and further strengthen country level action in this area.

- Improve food offer in public institutions
- Consider regulatory approaches to shape food price and availability
- Support the use of the Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition of the Committee of World Food Security
Action Area 6 – Strengthened governance and accountability for nutrition

Nutrition demands a whole of society approach with contributions from, and coordination among stakeholders and sectors.

- Ensure **good mechanisms** to engage all sectors and stakeholders at all levels
- Use the **Nutrition for Growth Summit 2020** to set new Commitments for action
- Establish mechanisms to monitor implementation of commitments
Cross Cutting Elements

Several cross-cutting issues can be identified across the six action areas

- Pursue effective partnerships and alliances
- Work across sectors
- Build national capacity for nutrition
- Improve national data on nutrition indicators
- Address the global nutrition finance and implementation gap
- Scale up implementation
Questions and Comments

Guiding Questions:

1. Do you have any questions on the process of the Mid-term Review?

2. What do you think should be priority actions for the second half of the Nutrition Decade to advance the global nutrition agenda and achieving the global targets?

Member States have the opportunity to send comments and questions via email throughout the meeting.

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