

UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF **ACTION ON NUTRITION**



2016-2025

71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly

The UN Decade of Action on Nutrition:

Working together to implement the outcomes of the Second International Conference on Nutrition

A Side-event co-hosted by Ecuador, Italy, Japan, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom

DRAFT 17 September 2016

- I. **On Tuesday, 20 September 2016, the Governments of Ecuador, Italy, Japan, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom will co-sponsor a special event on strengthening national commitments to end malnutrition in all its forms. The event will be supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, and will take place in Conference Room 11 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.**

Key Messages:

- The Decade, under the normative framework of ICN2 and the SDGs, marks a new direction in global nutrition action: Our shared goal is to end malnutrition in all its forms.
- Our immediate task is to translate the commitments of ICN2 and the SDGs into effective action: in the form of policies, programs, and partnerships.
- Governments are leading, and are engaging and working with all stakeholders.
- The vision of the Decade is to provide an umbrella for all nutrition champions to coordinate action, strengthen collaboration, and monitor impact within the shared framework of the ICN2 outcomes, the SDGs, and the global nutrition targets.
- The work programme is being developed through an open, inclusive process that builds upon existing and emerging alliances, institutions, initiatives, movements and platforms.
- This event is about assuming ownership, through concrete commitment and effective action, by all stakeholders.

II. **The aim of the event is to draw attention to the ways in which countries are deciding on and implementing actions to advance the improvement of nutrition in their countries.** Specifically, it seeks to catalyse clear, evidence-based commitments by Member States as a first step toward the implementation of national policies, programs and investments under the ICN2 framework. The event will showcase how governments, from across the world, are embedding nutrition in their national strategies and plans, looking at policies and investments in health, food systems, education, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and social security that contribute to ensuring that no one is left behind. It will encourage country leadership and shared learning as Member States prepare their own national plans, to translate their ICN2 commitments and the 2030 Agenda into national programmes, policies and partnerships. The participation of countries from the north and the south highlights the universal nature of the fight against malnutrition and the need for action by all governments.

III. To encourage the spirit of belonging and ownership, **the event, like the Decade itself, is designed to foster dialogue among existing as well as new nutrition actors.** Participants will include representatives from global, regional and national levels; high, low and middle income Member States; UN agencies and coordination mechanisms such as the Standing Committee on Nutrition; multi-stakeholder platforms such as the Committee on World Food Security; and delegates from civil society, academia, and the business community. These stakeholders work in different sectors, in different settings, including emergencies, and address all forms of malnutrition (undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight/obesity).

IV. **Organising Partners**

- The side event will be **co-hosted by Ecuador, Italy, Japan, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland.**
- **The co-hosts will be supported** by the two lead agencies of the Decade of Action on Nutrition (WHO and FAO) and the United Nations Secretariat working in nutrition (UNSCN, UNICEF, WFP and IFAD).
- **The event will be open** to Member States' Missions in New York, representatives from the UN system, business, civil society, financial institutions, regional bodies, parliamentarians, and donors that work in multi-sectoral ways in support of the Decade of Action on Nutrition and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

V. **Expected Outcomes**

Participants are expected to come away with deeper understanding of two issues:

- **Vision for the Decade:** How the decade is being organized to support more coherent, effective and strategic action by governments and their partners at all levels
- **Ownership of the decade:** The event will illustrate how state and non-state actors are called upon to take advantage of the decade to plan and work together in mutually supportive ways to achieve ICN2 commitments

VI. Agenda and speakers

Master of ceremony for the event: Dr. Nata Menabde, Executive Director, WHO UN Office in New York.

The event is proposed to consist of 3 blocks:

- Block one: on the Decade of Action on Nutrition
- Block two: on country commitments for action
- Block three: on other actors' role and commitments for action