**Invitation to an open discussion**

**on the political outcome document of the ICN2**

**Comment Form**

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1. **General comments on the Draft of the Rome Declaration on Nutrition.**

Well done, articulate and comprehensive. While there is an appropriate bias towards food systems, there is need for a clear articulation in strengthening/integrating nutrition outcomes into agriculture programming. Agricultural intervention programmes need to include explicit objectives of improving nutritional status with a focus on addressing child under nutrition, notably child stunting through building strengthened linkages between complementary feeding requirements/practices and agricultural production. The most sustainable, cost effective way to improve complementary feeding of children in poor rural households is by ensuring that nutritionally appropriate foods are available and utilized at household and community levels.

1. **Specific comments on the paragraphs related to the multiple threats that malnutrition poses to sustainable development (paragraphs 4-10).**

Under paragraph #5, include an additional bullet after: “Poverty... .. urban areas”

Inadequate knowledge and lack of awareness on nutrition is a factor that affects food choices, combinations, appropriate preparation and consumption and overall nutrition behaviour change.

Under paragraph # 10, bullet c, include calcium and vitamin D deficiencies

1. **Specific comments on the vision for global action to end all forms of malnutrition (paragraphs 11-12).**

Under paragraph # 11:

Bullet b, 2nd line, include the word ‘plans of action’ after cross cutting policies

Bullet b, include an additional bullet : Influence legislation on prevention/ control of child or adolescent marriages so as positively influence nutrition of women and healthy child bearing

Bullet c, 3rd line, include ‘ nutrition’ after agriculture production

Bullet d, 2nd line, include the word ‘addressed’ instead of ‘managed’.

Bullet e, 2nd line, it, revise to ‘frameworks’; ‘food safety, quality and control’

Under paragraph # 12:

Bullet a, 2nd line, it is proposed to replace ‘complement’ by ‘and ‘add value’ to national.... initiatives.

Bullet f, 3rd line, include ‘meat of small animals such as goat, poultry including egg and milk

1. **Specific comments in the appropriate fields relating to these commitments (paragraph 13):**

Commitment a): eradicate hunger and all forms of malnutrition, particularly to eliminate stunting, wasting and overweight in children under 5 and anemia in women; eliminating undernourishment and reversing rising trends in obesity;

Commitment b): reshape food systems through coherent implementation of public policies and investment plans throughout food value chains to serve the health and nutrition needs of the growing world population by providing access to safe, nutritious and healthy foods in a sustainable and resilient way;

Bullet b, 1st line, consider to replace ‘reshape’ with ‘orient’

Bullet c, 1st line, consider to replace ‘take’ with ‘strengthen’

Commitment c): take leadership to shape and manage food systems and improve nutrition by strengthening institutional capacity, ensuring adequate resourcing and coordinating effectively across sectors;

Commitment d): encourage and facilitate contributions by all stakeholders in society and promote collaboration within and across countries, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation;

Commitment e): enhance people’s nutrition, including people with special needs, through policies and initiatives for healthy diets throughout the life course, starting from the early stages of life, before and during pregnancy, promoting and supporting adequate breast feeding and appropriate complementary feeding, healthy eating by families, and at school during childhood;

Commitment f): adopt and implement a Framework for Action that should be used to monitor progress in achieving targets and fulfilling commitments;

Commitment g): integrate the objectives of the Framework for Action into the post-2015 development agenda including a possible global goal on food security and nutrition.

1. **We would also appreciate your vision on policies, programmes and investment that might help translate such commitments into action.**

There is need to consider including the following points:

* Advocate for or support processes for country led planning and fund mobilization for food and nutrition security policies, programmes and interventions.
* There is need for scaling up of nutrition sensitive agriculture, better technologies and sustainable livelihood opportunities, reducing work load of women and promote knowledge and behaviour on nutrition, especially with regard to infant and young child feeding.
* Strengthen leadership and capacities for nutrition across sectors in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluation