

CFS49 – Session III – Forum on Uptake of the CFS VGFSyN

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Progress report on the follow-up to the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), including implementation of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025

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6 minutes each

SLIDE 1

Nancy

Mister Chair,
Excellencies,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

- The UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) proclaimed through UN Resolution 70/259, aims to trigger intensified action to end hunger and eradicate all forms of malnutrition worldwide.
- CFS as a multi-stakeholder platform is called upon in this same Resolution to play an important role in supporting the implementation of the Nutrition Decade.

- It is an honour to join you today and to present key elements of the third progress report on the Follow-up to the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), including the implementation of the Nutrition Decade.
- The report CFS 2021/49/6 presents the progress made since CFS46. This report will be given by the joint FAO and WHO Secretariat.

Slide 2

- During the first five years of the Nutrition Decade, the critical role of sustainable food systems, and the need to work across sectors and with multiple partners, has gained increased recognition within intergovernmental and scientific fora.
- The nutrition narrative has shifted towards a more holistic approach linking it with food systems, climate, biodiversity, social protection, water sanitation and hygiene, and health.
- Furthermore, the emergence of COVID-19 has underlined the urgent need to strengthen the One Health approach, emphasizing the connections between human, animal and environmental health, in line with promoting a healthy and planet friendly recovery from COVID-19.

Slide 3

Francesco

- The Nutrition Decade encourages governments to set and achieve specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound commitments, for urgent investment, action and collaboration at national or local level.
- In addition to the commitments already made, the year 2021 provides exceptional global momentum for high-level SMART commitments on the ICN2 recommendations made by governments, partners, and other stakeholders.
- Important financial commitments have been made at The UN Food Systems Summit and new commitments on finances, policy and action are expected at the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit, as well as the COP15 on Biological Diversity and COP26 on Climate action, bringing together countries, donors and partners, to catalyse advancement towards the global nutrition targets and the related SDGs.

Slide 4

- The Nutrition Decade's Work Programme, which is built on the ICN2 Framework for Action, encourages country-led Action Networks. These aim to accelerate efforts and connect initiatives around specific topics through sharing experiences and good practices and illustrating successes and challenges.

- Australia, Brazil, Chile, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, and Uruguay are actively engaged in action networks on marine food, traditional diets, school food and nutrition labelling.
- One of the outcomes of the Food Systems Summit, is going to be the establishment of country-led global and regional Coalitions, also involving the large group of partners that have worked for the Food System Summit preparations.
- We would like to mention here the School Meals Coalition, that will build on the network on healthy, sustainable school nutrition being developed by Germany under the Nutrition Decade.
- We would also like to mention the Coalition of Action for Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems for Children & All is emerging as a mechanism to align stakeholders in the aim of substantially increasing collective impactful actions to ensure healthy diets from sustainable food systems.

Slide 5

Nancy

- The Nutrition Decade encouraged the engagement of a diverse array of stakeholders highlighting the multi-sectoral nature of durable solutions for addressing hunger and malnutrition. The contributions of numerous non-state actors to the Nutrition Decade are presented in the report.

- This slide projects the non-state actors as well as the UN agencies and entities that publicly committed and contributed to the Nutrition Decade, and we would like to acknowledge all of these partners for their engagement and support to ending hunger and malnutrition. We would like to acknowledge the contribution made by the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement in empowering country focal points aligning sectors and actors, but also the commitment of food manufacturers to improve the quality of their products, for example by eliminating industrial trans fats.

Slide 6

- The Mid-term Review held in 2020 and 2021 provided an opportunity to review the achievements in the action areas of the Decade's Work Programme and identify gaps and barriers encountered for making progress in the past 5 years.
- This Review also identified focus areas for priority action for the second half of the Decade, until 2025.
- The Nutrition Decade Secretariat developed a Foresight Paper that served as input for a series of consultations and dialogues.
- Informal consultations were held in 2020 with Mission Focal Points in Geneva, Permanent Representatives to FAO in Rome and Permanent Missions to the UN in New York.

- In addition, the Nutrition Decade Secretariat convened dialogues with members of the Civil Society Mechanism to CFS, the Private Sector Mechanism to CFS and UN Nutrition member agencies.
- In 2021, the UN Nutrition Secretariat facilitated an online consultation at the Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition.

Slide 7

Francesco

Key action points emerging from this process include :

- Scale up the inclusion of nutrition objectives in food and agriculture policies
- Accelerate food reformulation
- Accelerate strengthening food control systems
- Integrate essential nutrition actions into national Universal Health Coverage (UHC) plans and increase investments for nutrition in UHC
- Accelerate progress on wasting reduction
- Scale up the implementation of nutrition-sensitive social protection policies
- Better leverage of schools as a platform for food and nutrition education and enabling healthy diets

- Accelerate responsible and sustainable investments in nutrition
- Scale up the implementation of nutrition-sensitive trade policies, of regulatory instruments to promote healthy diets and nutrition-sensitive public food procurement policies, in line with national dietary guidelines:
- Increase investments in national nutrition information system

Slide 8

- While the ICN2 Framework for Action is still relevant, the second half of the Nutrition Decade may be inspired by these elements, as well as by the 105 recommendations of the CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Food Systems and Nutrition.
- Country-led Networks, such as the Action Networks promoted under the umbrella of the Nutrition Decade as well as the emerging Coalitions from the UN Food Systems Summit, have the potential to drive the scaling-up of action and achieving concrete results in countries.
- Each country has its own starting point, and its own unique path for sustainable food systems transformation and ensuring healthy diets for all. CFS has a crucial role in bringing the multiple constituency groups together and convening dialogues among its members to achieve the aims of the Nutrition Decade and the related SDG targets.