

CFS43 side event

The UN Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016 – 2025

CFS expectations and opportunities for engagement

Towards achieving the outcomes of the Second International Conference on Nutrition and the Sustainable Development Goals

Concept Note

Date: Wednesday, 19th October 2016

Time: 13:00 – 14:30 hrs (90 minutes)

Venue: Red room (building A, Floor 1) in FAO Headquarters in Rome

Abstract of the Side Event

On 1 April 2016, the United Nations General Assembly decides to proclaim 2016–2025 the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, within existing structures and available resources; endorses the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action; and invites Governments and other relevant stakeholders to actively support the implementation of the Decade, including through voluntary contributions, as appropriate.

The resolution calls on FAO and WHO to lead the implementation of the Decade of Action on Nutrition in collaboration with the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the United Nations Children’s Fund, and using coordination mechanisms such as the Standing Committee on Nutrition and multistakeholder platforms such as the Committee on World Food Security, in line with its mandate, and in consultation with other international and regional organizations and platforms.

FAO and WHO are assigned to identify and develop a work programme, along with its means of implementation for 2016–2025, and will compile jointly biennial reports that will serve to inform the United Nations General Assembly about the implementation of the Decade of Action on Nutrition.

The goal of the Decade of Action on Nutrition is to increase activities conducted at national, regional and global levels in order to implement the actions recommended in the Framework for Action, endorsed by the Second International Conference on Nutrition (Rome 19–21 November 2014), so as to achieve existing global targets for nutrition by 2025 and to attain by 2030 the corresponding targets in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. FAO and WHO are working together to establish an open and inclusiveness process to call on Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations and platforms, and non-State actors to contribute to achieving the goal of the Decade of Action on Nutrition with concrete commitments. These commitments should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound, and their implementation and impact be tracked and monitored, by means of existing indicators.

Aim

The main aim of the event is to provide CFS members with the latest information on the Decade of Action on Nutrition, to offer an interactive platform for discussion on expectations and possible ways of engagement under the Decade.

Expected Participants

Expected participants will be mainly representatives from member countries and from all other CFS constituency groups.

Objectives and Outcomes

The Decade offers space and opportunities for all, and participants will better understand their role and possible ways of engagement. The expected outcomes of this side event are the following:

- CFS members are informed about the Decade of Action on Nutrition, including about the process of work programme development
- CFS members understand the relevance of the Decade for the work of CFS, in particular on food security and improved nutrition.
- They understand the connection between the Decade and the SDG Agenda 2030.
- Important elements and possible next steps for CFS engagement in the Decade will be identified.

Relevance to CFS

CFS is particularly mentioned in the UNGA resolution as multi-stakeholder platform to collaborate with FAO and WHO in support of the implementation of the Decade in line with its mandate.

The Decade of Action offers an overall umbrella linking the outcomes of the Second International Conference on Nutrition with the Agenda for Sustainable Development to achieve the overall target eliminating hunger and preventing malnutrition in all its forms. This is pertinent and timely for the newly anticipated work of CFS on advancing nutrition and on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The goal of the Decade of Action on Nutrition is to increase activities conducted at the national, regional and global levels in order to implement the actions recommended in the ICN2 Framework for Action. These actions touch on many of the previous work of CFS and will be conducive to implement policy guidance provided by CFS as indicated in the table below.

Organization and Speakers (draft)

Speaker	Role	Constituency group
CFS Chair	Welcome	CFS
Brazil representative	Keynote: What we can get out of the Decade of Action on Nutrition	MC
FAO and WHO representatives	Introductory Presentation: Framing the Decade of Action	UN
Member Country Russian Federation (tbc)	Panellist: country view of the Decade and actions	MC
Member Country Italy	Panellist: country view of the Decade and actions	MC
Member Country South Africa (tbc)	Panellist: country view of the Decade and actions	MC

Other Member Countries (tbc)	Panellist: country view of the Decade and actions	MC
Civil Society representative	Panellist: expectations from civil society	CS
Academia:	How ICN2 recommendations on food systems for sustainable healthy diets can be translated into policy SMART commitments	AC/AR
Moderator	Plenary Discussion and Feedback from Panel Members	All
Moderator	Wrap up and closing remarks	

References

FAO/WHO. Second International Conference on Nutrition, Conference Outcome Document: Framework for Action, November 2014. Available at <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/icn2/en/>

United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution, A/70/L.42.

World Health Assembly 69th Session, May 2016: WHA69.8 Resolution on UN Decade of Action on Nutrition.

FAO Council 154th Session, June 2016: Developments in Fora of Importance for the Mandate of FAO.

FAO/WHO. Second International Conference on Nutrition, Conference Outcome Document: Rome Declaration on Nutrition, November 2014. Available at <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/icn2/en/>

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