



AMBITION AND ACTION IN NUTRITION 2016–2025



World Health
Organization





WHO Director-General Dr Margaret Chan

19 July 2016

“It is unprecedented that nutrition is so high in the political agenda of Member States and the Decade of Action on Nutrition is a unique opportunity to drastically change our food environment, to eradicate hunger and prevent malnutrition worldwide”

Ambition and Action in Nutrition 2016-2025

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FOREWORD



Oleg Chestnov

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As a global nutrition community, we have collectively been successful in positioning nutrition highly on the world's health and development agenda. Nutrition is firmly embedded in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through Sustainable Development Goal 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture) and its targets 2.1 and 2.2.¹ There is also a clear recognition that nutrition contributes to nearly all of the other SDGs, in particular SDG3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages) target 3.4.²

In addition, United Nations Member States have created a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for increased investment and action in nutrition by declaring 2016–2025 to be the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition. Through UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/259, the World Health Organization is mandated to lead the implementation of the Nutrition Decade, jointly with our sister UN Agency the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and in collaboration with the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, and UNICEF. Actions under the Nutrition Decade will accelerate the implementation of commitments made at the Second International Conference of Nutrition (ICN2), lead to achieving the six Global Nutrition Targets and the diet-related noncommunicable diseases targets by 2025 and contribute to attaining the SDGs by 2030.

With the momentum of this promising era, WHO has developed an inclusive, multi-level, fit-for-purpose nutrition strategy, WHO's *Ambition and Action in Nutrition 2016–2025*. This has been the first-ever strategic exercise on nutrition undertaken by WHO, and the intensive work of many staff has resulted in the description of the Organization's strategic advantage, the definition of a vision and mission for nutrition for the next ten years and an agreed set of priorities including the delivery model. The strategy was also developed in the context of the internal WHO reform.

WHO's *Ambition and Action in Nutrition 2016–2025* provides the clarity and framework needed to ensure the support, buy-in and alignment on nutrition within WHO and with partners. It will encourage us to focus on what we do

¹ Target 2.1. By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round. Target 2.2: By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.

² Target 3.4. By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.

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an inclusive, multi-level,
fit-for-purpose nutrition
strategy, Ambition and
Action in Nutrition
2016-2025 ”

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