

ADDRESSING AND MANAGING CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

IN THE PLANNING AND DELIVERY
OF NUTRITION PROGRAMMES AT
COUNTRY LEVEL

Report of a technical consultation
convened in Geneva, Switzerland,
on 8–9 October 2015



World Health
Organization

TECHNICAL REPORT

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Abbreviations

BINGO	Business-interest nongovernmental organization
CIP	Comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition
CODE	Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes
COI	Conflicts of interest
FBDGs	Food-Based Dietary Guidelines
FENSA	Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors
HFSS	Foods high in fat, sugar or salt
GIFA	Geneva Infant Feeding Association
IBFAN	International Baby Food Action Network
ICN2	Second International Conference on Nutrition
NCDs	Noncommunicable diseases
NHD	Nutrition for Health and Development
PINGO	Public-interest nongovernmental organization
PPP	Public-private partnership
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition movement
UN	United Nations
WHA	World Health Assembly
WHO	World Health Organization
WHO GCM	WHO Global Coordination Mechanism
WTO	World Trade Organization

Foreword

In response to the emerging challenge of conflicts of interest in nutrition, the Department of Nutrition for Health and Development at WHO headquarters convened a WHO technical consultation on “Addressing and managing conflicts of interest in the planning and delivery of nutrition programmes at country level” in Geneva, Switzerland, on 8–9 October 2015.

The consultation on this complex issue is the beginning of a process with the aim of developing risk assessment, disclosure and management tools to safeguard Member States against conflicts of interest in nutrition programmes. The ultimate goal is to help promote the Comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition as part of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The outcomes of this consultation informed the WHO Secretariat report which was presented to the Executive Board at its 138th session in January 2016 and which will be discussed at the Sixty-ninth World Health Assembly in May 2016.

In early April 2016, the United Nations General Assembly in New York adopted a landmark resolution which proclaimed 2016–2025 the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition. WHO will work with governments and other relevant stakeholders, including international and regional organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector, to actively support the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition.

In this context, WHO’s role is to provide evidence-based policy advice to its Member States, to disseminate examples of best practice, to encourage political commitment and to lead international action. Appropriate handling of conflicts of interest is also needed and WHO is committed to assisting with practical tools, based on the outcomes of this consultation and the wealth of experience that countries are now developing.



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