

Global Nutrition Targets Open Online Public Consultation

WHO has launched an online consultation to solicit feedback from Member States, private sector, civil society, academia and interested individuals on the proposal for the 2025-2030 outcome and process indicators and targets. This online consultation is open until 21st June 2024. You can access a PDF version of the form using this link

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/w5h3htmngb2kv5vtji84/Global-Nutrition-Targets-Open-Online-Public-Consultation.pdf?rlkey=v67120skz3aa3gktvb8km6y80&st=p9lodp16&dl=0>

Responses from Patti Rundall, for Baby Milk Action IBFAN UK

Global Outcome Indicator Targets

6. Will commitment to the extended nutritional outcome targets for 2030 serve to motivate action on improving nutrition

ANSWER: As long as they are appropriate -Yes - I hope so.

7 How can the “acceleration scenarios”, which represent a more feasible rate of progress, be used to motivate action on improving nutrition?

ANSWER: Its important that WHO maintains its commitment to norm-setting in relation breastfeeding and optimal infant and young child feeding, providing space for Member States to propose new Resolutions and programs that tackle the inappropriate marketing that undermines health.

8. Specific comments on the extended targets for stunting

9. Specific comments on the extended targets for anaemia

ANSWER: The importance of breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding must be integrated into work to address all forms of malnutrition. Care must be taken to ensure that the marketing of micro-nutrient supplements does not distort public perceptions.

11. Specific comments on the extended targets for overweight

ANSWER: WHO must follow the substantial evidence regarding the importance of protecting and supporting breastfeeding and minimally processed bio-diverse family foods is evident. The early years (pre conception to age 5) are critically important in helping babies and young children develop healthy taste preferences and eating habits and healthy growth trajectories. Enabling healthy eating in these earliest stages of life leverage of life-long benefits. Breastfeeding provides unrivalled health benefits to mothers and babies. Then from the second half of infancy babies and young children need to be introduced to an increasingly diverse diet based on nutritious unprocessed and minimally processed foods. Real foods are necessary for children to learn the physical act of eating and to develop healthy taste preference and habits. The targets should take into account the need to tackle the marketing of HFSS and UPF foods - both at national regulatory level and through policy coherence in trade rules.

12 Specific comments on the extended targets for exclusive breastfeeding

ANSWER: It is essential that WHO extends targets for exclusive and continued breastfeeding, a practice that is resilient and provides food, care, immune support and protection -

including from the worst of emergency conditions. This will enable space for WHO programs focused on the protection and support of breastfeeding and for Member States to propose new Resolutions at the Assembly. Without the targets there will be commercial and political pressure to ignore the critical importance of breastfeeding. New Resolutions are essential if governments are to effectively regulate marketing without fear of challenge.

13 Specific comments on the extended targets for wasting

ANSWER: *Again - the importance of breastfeeding must be Integrated in all forms of malnutrition. While targets for wasting are needed, it must be remembered that young child malnutrition and food insecurity is the result of many factors including social and economic inequities, disempowerment of women, inadequate support for breastfeeding, degraded environments, poor sanitation, unsafe water, violence and conflict. In this complex context, humanitarian agencies have a responsibility to guard against unintended consequences and ensure that the promotion of "quick fix" interventions do no harm*

14 Would the establishment of global operational targets help to accelerate progress towards the nutritional outcome targets in 2030?

ANSWER: *If they are appropriate and do not mask the need for support for breastfeeding and family foods*

Proposal for Operation Targets - Overweight

26.Are the indicators appropriate?

ANSWER: *WHO should set a much stricter target - why not zero ? - for added sugar and sweeteners for commercial processed foods for infants and young children*

27.Which of the two proposed indicators would be preferred?

ANSWER: *adult sugar-sweetened beverage consumption*

28.Why would you prefer your selected indicator?

ANSWER: *The problem is not just the addition of free sugars. Ultra processing and sweeteners are very important and must be tackled.*

29.Do you propose any alternative indicators?

ANSWER: *Extent to which the marketing of HSS ultra Processed products are controlled by regulation or freely marketed.*

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