

## **SIDE EVENT #6: The UN Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025 in Africa: Mutual Accountability for Achieving Nutrition Commitments of Malabo, ICN2 and SDGs in Africa**

**Date and Time:** 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016, 1:10 – 2:40 pm GMT

**Venue:** ADINKRA room, Labadi Beach Hotel

**Organizers:** The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Regional Offices for Africa

### **Contact Persons:**

#### **Elisa DOMINGUEZ**

WHO Medical Officer, Nutrition Unit, Inter-country support team /West Africa (Regional Office for Africa)

Email: [domingueze@who.int](mailto:domingueze@who.int), Tel: +226-62308571

#### **Adelheid Werimo ONYANGO**

WHO Regional Nutrition Adviser, Regional Office for Africa

Email: [onyangoa@who.int](mailto:onyangoa@who.int)

#### **Mawuli SABLAAH**

FAO Chief Technical Adviser, CAADP Nutrition, Regional Office for Africa

Email: [Mawuli.Sablah@fao.org](mailto:Mawuli.Sablah@fao.org), Tel: +233-261509395

### **Facilitator:**

**Mawuli SABLAAH**, FAO

### **Speakers:**

**Ousmane Badiane**, Director for Africa, IFPRI (*Welcome Remarks*)

**Excellency Bukar Tijani**, FAO Assistant Director General and Regional representative for Africa (*Introductory Remarks*)

### **Panelists**

**\*Kelfiwe Moalosi - Nutrition Programme and Research Officer, NEPAD**

**\*Richemond Aryeetey – Snr. Lecturer, Public Health Dept, University of Ghana, EVIDENT**

**\*Prof. Ruth Oniang'o – Founder, Rural Outreach Program (ROP), Kenya**

**\*Elisa Dominguez – Nutrition officer, WHO Inter-country support team for West Africa**

**\*Marie Caroline Dodé – Nutrition consultant, FAO Rome**

### **Abstract & Objectives**

Malnutrition in all its forms – from stunting, wasting, and micronutrient deficiencies to overweight/obesity and diet-related noncommunicable diseases – represents a significant barrier to equitable and sustainable social and economic development in Africa. Through the Malabo Declaration on *Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods* and the *Declaration on Nutrition Security for Inclusive Economic Growth and Sustainable Development*, African leaders have committed to ending hunger and reducing child stunting to ten percent by 2025.

The Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025) proclaimed by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in April 2016 offers an umbrella for governments and other relevant stakeholders to unite around a common program of work and increase visibility, coordination, efficiency, and effectiveness of nutrition action at all levels. The Decade of Action on Nutrition is a unique opportunity for the next ten years to align various commitments for mutual accountability and help translate the overall commitments of African leaders as well as the goals of the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063, the outcomes of the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) and the nutrition-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the Agenda 2030 into concrete actions in Africa including the catalytic role of the Nutrition Capacity Development Initiative within the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP). The Malabo Declaration committed to reduce stunting to below 10 percent and underweight to below 5 percent while striving to end hunger by 2025. Its implementation strategy and roadmap as well as the implementation of the ICN2 recommendations to support the achievements for these targets in Africa calls for mutual accountability and more effective coordination of the contributions of all stakeholders for results.

In the context of the FAO/WHO-convened global effort to set, track, and achieve policy commitments to end all forms of malnutrition including overweight, obesity and diet-related noncommunicable diseases, an inclusive process is being established for their members, UN organizations, other international organizations, development partners and relevant stakeholders to contribute to achieving the goal of the Decade of Action on Nutrition with concrete commitments for action. This side event will foster better understanding of the Decade of Action on Nutrition by providing Conference participants with latest information and offering an interactive platform for discussion on expectations and potential ways for engagement within CAADP activities and the African region as a whole.

### **Objectives**

The overall objective of the side event is to engage in dialogue and to update participants on the operationalization of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition in Africa and mutual accountability for achieving the joint nutrition commitments of ICN2, SDGs, and the Malabo Declaration by African leaders.

The UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025) offers space and opportunities for all nutrition stakeholders. The specific objectives of this side-event include:

- To share the latest information about the Decade of Action on Nutrition, including the process of developing its work programme.
- To foster understanding about the connection between the Decade of Action on Nutrition, ICN2, and the SDG Agenda 2030.
- To create understanding about the relevance of the Decade of Action on Nutrition for the work of CAADP and the AU on linking agriculture and food systems for healthy diets and optimal nutrition.
- To identify common elements expected roles within and possible next steps for engagement in the Decade of Action on Nutrition.

The side event will include a moderated panel discussion and expected participants will include technical experts, senior level policymakers, and representatives from civil society, farmers' organizations, the private sector, and development partner organizations.

**SIDE EVENT #7: The UN Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025 in Africa: Mutual Accountability for Achieving Nutrition Commitments of Malabo, ICN2 and SDGs in Africa**

**18<sup>th</sup> October, 2016:  
AGENDA**

1. Introduction to the symposium by the facilitator (Mawuli Sablah, FAO) (5 min)
2. Remarks by FAO RAF ADG/RR for Africa and by IFPRI Director for Africa (10 min)
3. Key note presentation - (15 min)  
***Decade of Action on Nutrition: Mutual Accountability for Achieving Nutrition Commitments of Malabo, ICN2 and SDGs in Africa*** – WHO/FAO.
4. Panel Members' - Remarks (statement by each panel member on one of the five points below):
  - What opportunities does the “*Decade of Action on Nutrition*” offer for scaling up nutrition in Africa?
  - What challenges need to be addressed at regional and national level to operationalize the impact of the “*Decade of Action on Nutrition*” in Africa?
  - How do we maximize the impact of the UN “*Decade of Action on Nutrition*” on advancing nutrition sensitive food systems and reducing all forms of malnutrition in Africa?
  - What critical actions need to be included in the *Work Programme* for the implementation of the UN “*Decade of Action on Nutrition*” to reach the 2025 global nutrition targets?
  - What role(s) should stakeholders; UN-Agencies, donors, academic, research, CSOs, public and private actors play in monitoring the implementation of the “*Decade of Action on Nutrition*”?
6. Plenary Discussion: The discussion will be used to maximize inputs from the audience.
7. Concluding and closing remarks (by the facilitator)