



70th World Health Assembly – Geneva, May 2017

IBFAN statement on Agenda Item 15.4: Outcome of the ICN2

I speak on behalf of IBFAN. This statement is supported by FIAN International and PHM. We welcome the outcome document of the ICN2, which refers to the development of the Decade of Action on Nutrition work programme setting the framework for implementation of States' commitments to eliminate malnutrition in all its forms by 2025.

Although the work programme emphasizes the leadership of States, the following remaining concerns are to be addressed:

- All activities carried out under DoA must be compliant with the human rights framework and guarantee access to effective and timely remedies for victims.
- Promotion and protection of women's rights, including sexual and reproductive rights, should be understood as crosscutting elements of all areas of intervention.
- Trade and investment agreements must not harm human rights, and therefore should not make use of Investor State Dispute Settlement mechanisms. Primacy of human rights over corporate rights must be guaranteed by a binding international instrument on business enterprises and human rights, which would ensure corporate accountability to the people.
- Regulation of private sector impacting on food systems and access to natural resources, including on marketing for unhealthy foods and breastmilk substitutes, seeds protection for peasants, antibiotic resistance, endocrine disrupting chemicals, is central.
- Root causes of malnutrition in all its forms should be addressed, and social protection cannot be considered as the only solution to poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

- The specific role and relevance of different actors should be clarified, and centrality of the participation of the most affected by all forms of malnutrition should be recognized as part of the solution by harnessing on their competencies rather than on the ones of the private sector.
- Strong inclusive monitoring and accountability mechanisms must be in place to measure progress and hold States accountable to their obligations and commitments.
- Strong safeguards against conflicts of interests should be foreseen to protect public institutions and officials

Thank you.