

**Statement to the 136th Session of the WHO Executive Board
on agenda item 6.1 Outcome of the Second International Conference on Nutrition**

Thank you, Chair, for giving me the opportunity of addressing the distinguished Members of the EB on behalf of MMI and the PHM.

The conclusion of the ICN2 negotiation is a welcome step and provides a menu to work on, however, we consider it inadequate to confront the scale of global malnutrition.

Whether the right to adequate food and nutrition is progressively realized depends on action at the national and international levels. The political and economic context within which the national planning takes place is strongly shaped by economic globalisation and the increasing power of TNCs.

There is an urgent need for new international instruments to regulate TNCs in areas where their profit objectives run counter to public policy objectives, particularly in food sovereignty and environmental sustainability. We ask MSs to call on WHO to open negotiations with UNCTAD to explore possible strategies for regulating TNCs.

There is also a need to clearly articulate the barriers to food security and food sovereignty in current trade and investment agreements. We urge opposition to the use of Investor State Dispute Settlement provisions to prevent regulatory strategies.

We endorse Recommendation 3 of the FFA on the need for safeguards against conflicts of interest. Caution is needed in relation to ‘multi-stakeholder platforms’ such as SUN. Where such platforms include private sector participation, this could lead to mission shifts, prevent proper consideration of regulatory or fiscal strategies that run counter to corporate interests.

We ask MS to oppose any attempt to create another mechanism outside of the intergovernmental system to oversee food and nutrition issues such as a ‘United Nations Nutrition’ initiative. We see no advantage in such a move and are concerned about accountability and risk of undue influence by the corporate sector. Instead we urge WHO to join the CFS secretariat to fill its current gap regarding health and nutrition implications of food security.

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