

WORLD OBESITY

Statement from the World Obesity Federation, Consumers International, World Cancer Research Fund International, NCD Alliance and UK Health Forum to the 138th Session of the World Health Organisation's Executive Board Agenda Item 6.1 on Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition

The World Obesity Federation and named signatories welcome the report on maternal, infant and young child nutrition, and in particular the set of guidance on the inappropriate promotion of foods for infants and young children. We particularly welcome the application of this guidance to include children up to at least 3 years of age (36months) and to include recommendations for member states, civil society, health professionals and the private sector.

Implementation of this guidance is an important step to ending poor childhood nutrition in all its forms, and we urge all member states to take strong and urgent action, including legislative action, to take this agenda item forward. Care should be taken in the development and implementation of such policies to ensure that there is no undue influence from the processed food industry which promotes products high in saturated fat, sugar and salt.

However, we urge the Executive Board to consider amending the REQUEST in paragraph 35, section (OP)7, subparagraph (b) by adding '*and to undertake a rapid review of the relevant Codex standards in light of the new guidance on inappropriate marketing and the recent WHO guideline on free sugar intake*'.

Signed by: World Obesity Federation, World Cancer Research Fund International, NCD Alliance, Consumers International and UK Health Forum.

