Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)

The Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) will take place in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014. The meeting, co-convened by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), will bring together representatives of governments for the first high-level intergovernmental conference on nutrition since the First International Conference on Nutrition was organised by FAO and WHO in 1992. The Conference will focus on how to address major nutrition challenges over the coming decades.

The Conference will agree a concise action-oriented Political Declaration that will identify public policy priorities at the national and global levels to address under-nutrition, micronutrient deficiencies and over-weight with a view to achieving the global nutrition targets by 2025. A Joint Working Group (JWG) of the World Health Assembly and FAO Council is negotiating the Political Declaration. The JWG is made up of delegates from national governments’ Permanent Missions in Geneva and Rome. Reporting to capitals is likely to be through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health (Geneva based delegates) or Ministry of Agriculture (Rome based delegates).

The next meeting of the JWG will take place in Geneva and Rome (linked by video) on 30 May.

More information can be found at:


WHO Website: http://www.who.int/nutrition/events/icn2-consultation/en/

Concept Note: http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/agn/pdf/ICN2ConceptNote1March_updated__2_.pdf

Political Outcome Document (Zero Draft): http://www.who.int/nutrition/events/icn2-zero-draft-political-outcome-en.pdf?ua=1

Post-2015 Development Agenda

The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have helped to galvanise development efforts and guide global and national development priorities. While three of the eight goals have been achieved prior to the final deadline of 2015, progress has been uneven within and across countries. Sustained efforts by all are needed to accelerate progress and reach the goals by 2015. In addition, the international community have initiated a number of processes aimed at agreeing a development agenda for the Post-2015 period.

The 2010 MDG Summit requested the Secretary-General to initiate thinking on the global development agenda beyond 2015. The 2012 Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development initiated an inclusive process to develop a set of sustainable development goals (SDGs). There is broad agreement that will converge in one global development agenda beyond 2015, with sustainable development at its core. The process of arriving at this new framework is Member State-led with broad participation from all stakeholders.

A 30-member Open Working Group (OWG) of the General Assembly is tasked with preparing a proposal on the SDGs. The member states decided to use an innovative, constituency-based system of representation. This means that each seat in the Group is shared by 1-4 Member States. These country teams decide themselves how they will be represented in the OWG meetings. Member states are represented through their Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York, and in many cases, by senior officials from capitals attending the meetings.

The OWG will meet up until July of this year to develop a proposal for the SDGs and targets. This is being approached in an iterative way, by identifying first core focus areas where possible SDGs and targets may be identified. The focus areas are described in working documents prepared by the OWG co-chairs that are the basis for the deliberations, which are updated following the results of each of the OWG sessions. Upcoming meetings will take place on 5-9 May (consultations based on revised focus area document), 16 – 20 June (consultations on SDGs/targets), 14 – 18 July (consultations on SDGs/targets, agreement and adoption of report on SDGs/targets). The report will be presented to the President of the UN General Assembly and UN Secretary-General in August 2014. Building on the outcomes of the various processes, the UN Secretary-General has been tasked to prepare a synthesis report for the consideration of member states, to be delivered before the end of 2014. The General Assembly will engage in the preparatory process for an international global summit to agree the post-2015 development agenda, to take place in New York in September 2015.

More information can be found at:


Further background material can be obtained from the SUN Movement Secretariat upon request