



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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**Office of the
Secretary General**

To the Speakers of Parliament
from the Member Countries of the
SUN Movement

Geneva, 9 April 2018

Dear Madam Speaker,
Dear Mr. Speaker,

A world free from malnutrition in all its forms is the core objective of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement. Your government is a committed member of this movement alongside 59 other countries and I commend the political leadership your country has displayed in driving this agenda.

After steadily declining for over a decade, global hunger is on the rise. Chronic malnutrition affects almost one in four children under the age of five years, increasing their risk of impaired cognitive ability, weakened performance at school, and dying from infections. At the same time, the number of overweight and obese children and adults is increasing rapidly. Every country has a malnutrition challenge, with multiple forms of malnutrition co-existing in most countries. Accelerated action and innovative approaches are needed to end all forms of malnutrition, for everyone, by 2030, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Last year, I shared a letter urging you to convene a multistakeholder consultation within parliament in order to identify ways to take action to support efforts to fight malnutrition and all its consequences. The letter helped ignite a renewed commitment to nutrition among parliamentarians and resulted in multistakeholder consultations in parliament in several countries. Today, I wish to encourage you to go further and help make nutrition a political priority in your country. Nutrition can contribute to, and in turn, benefit from: sustainable food production, strong infrastructure, health systems, education, equity and inclusion, peace and stability. By making nutrition a focus in parliament, progress can be made toward all the SDGs.

In 2018, I urge you to:

- Schedule a parliamentary discussion on the status of nutrition in your country.
- Encourage domestic and external investment in existing national nutrition plans.
- Help to make people's nutrition a cross cutting priority for all members of parliament.

As a member of the SUN Lead Group, I invite you to work toward the actions outlined above. I am pleased to attach a guidance note that may assist you in taking forward these actions in your country.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Chungong
Secretary General