

Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA) Declaration

Nairobi, Kenya, 27 August 2016

We, the participants in the "Action on Nutrition: Launching of the IFNA" event organised by the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the New Partnership for Africa's Development, taking advantage of the opportunity presented by the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development, met here in Nairobi on the twenty-seventh day of August 2016 to accelerate nutrition actions and enhance policies and programmes aimed at scaling up interventions to address the multiple challenges posed by malnutrition in all its forms in African countries, paying due respect to African ownership, knowledge and wisdom,

Noting, with appreciation, the invaluable achievements that have been made in improving nutritional well-being around the world through the continued commitment and collective efforts of a diverse range of stakeholders,

Nevertheless, concerned that billions of adults and children are still suffering from hunger and malnutrition throughout the world and that food and nutrition security remains one of the most urgent development challenges today,

Recognising that Africa is a region in urgent need of nutritional improvement since the proportion of its population suffering from malnutrition stands at a higher level than in any other region and since the numbers of the undernourishment and stunted children are even increasing,

Acknowledging the multiple impacts that all forms of malnutrition have -particularly giving due consideration to the First 1,000 Days and the following early stage of life- not only on the physiological condition of the human body but also on children's cognitive, motor and social development and learning skills, their eventual productivity as an adult, and ultimately the social and economic development of the region,

Also acknowledging, therefore, that nutritional improvement is critical to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals for the people living in the region,

Being aware of the fact that the collective and coordinated efforts in various interventions in health, agriculture, education, social protection, water, sanitation, hygiene and other sectors with scientific evidence regarding nutrition would enhance the impact and sustainability of nutritional improvement,

Reconfirming that the achievement of nutritional improvements through a people-centred approach with an emphasis on the empowerment of women, small-scale farmers and other marginalised groups are of the utmost importance,

Highlighting that it is essential to build upon the experiences through the existing nutrition platforms and the decisions made in the international nutrition conferences, and

Recalling the Second Sustainable Development Goal, which is aimed at ending hunger and malnutrition by 2030, as well as the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, which aspires to end hunger and improve the nutritional status of Africa by 2025, and other internationally agreed nutrition targets,

Hereby adopt the following Declaration on the establishment of the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa (IFNA):

1. Objective

In collaboration with a variety of other stakeholders, the IFNA aims to establish a framework for collaboration with African governments in order to accelerate the implementation of their food and nutrition security policies on the ground, with a view to contributing to a comprehensive improvement in the nutrition status of the African continent in line with the Second Sustainable Development Goal and the Malabo Declaration.

2. Principles of the IFNA

- (1) To accelerate the implementation of people-centred nutrition policies, programmes, and activities on the ground, which are nutrition specific and/or nutrition sensitive
- (2) To emphasise the inclusion and empowerment of women, youths, small-scale farmers and other marginalised groups
- (3) To coordinate and produce genuinely synergistic impacts among multiple sectors, such as health, agriculture, education, social protection, water, sanitation, hygiene and among various stakeholders

- (4) To strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of interventions, as well as analytical work on enabling environment and policy framework
- (5) To support sustainable systems for nutritional improvement and the prevention of malnutrition with the aim of enhancing the resilience of the community through coordination among short-, mid-, and long-term interventions

3. Activities to be Supported through IFNA in Target Countries

- (1) Advocacy and education on nutrition
- (2) Design and revision of government strategies and programmes for accelerating nutritional improvements in line with the principles of the IFNA, as stipulated above
- (3) Acceleration and scale-up of nutrition-specific interventions on the ground
- (4) Promotion and revision of nutrition-sensitive interventions, such as for agriculture including strengthening of the whole food system with due attention to the linkage between local production and consumption, rural development, education, safe water and sanitation, to enhance the nutritional impact
- (5) Collection and analysis of data and lessons, as well as the sharing of information
- (6) Improvement of the framework for the nutrition policy

4. Target Period

2016–2025

5. Target Countries

Target countries will be selected based on the individual country's nutritional situation, its situation with regard to ongoing interventions and the national priorities of its government.

The lessons learnt and the good practices that are identified shall be shared through a mutual learning process for the benefit of all African countries.

6. Resources

Financial resources, human resources and goods and services are to be mobilised through the IFNA Secretariat in collaboration with the IFNA Partners.

7. Operational Structure

- (1) The IFNA is composed of the Partners Meeting, the Steering Committee and the IFNA Secretariat.
- (2) The IFNA Partners are among governments in Africa, bilateral development aid agencies,

international organisations, private corporations, volunteer organisations, civil society organisations and advocacy organisations.

- (3) The Partners meet biennially to provide advisory recommendations for the IFNA, while the Steering Committee, through its annual meetings, functions as the decision making body for the IFNA. The IFNA Secretariat takes on a coordinating role to ensure effective and efficient implementation of the IFNA.

We call upon all of the relevant actors to collaborate in the IFNA framework with the aim of helping to realise an Africa that is free of hunger and malnutrition.

