



**MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
GENERAL FOOD AND NUTRITION COORDINATION**

**SIXTY-NINTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY  
Framework of engagement with non-State actors**

**General comments**

In the last years, nutrition has taken a central part of international agenda, with a particular focus on the multiple burden of malnutrition as highlighted within the Framework of Action of the Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN 2) and the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, and other globally endorsed documents.

This scenario has mobilized international agencies, national governments, civil society organizations and private sector representations in terms of formalizing commitments and implementing strategies to address the multiple burden of malnutrition. Thus, there is also mobilization around movements that aim to raise nutrition in the policy level and also inspire interventions in the most vulnerable regions of the world, through multiple strategies. However, despite the undoubted merits of this movements, which mobilize important cooperation and global social responsibility actions of the sectors, agencies, governments and civil society, these initiatives highlight the interests of industries that directly act in food, nutrition and medicines field. They are often related to strategies that directly use their products, such as food formulas, processed foods and supplements, and do not take into account the specificities of the target public and do not stimulate structural and sustainable policies for the countries and regions in which they operate.

In this context, the document under online consultation should consider such potential conflicts of interest and forms of control regarding different non-governmental actors participation, particularly food industries and the organizations financed by them. The document should be sensitive to immediate strategies or interventions, based on infant formulas, fortified foods and micronutrient supplements distribution (often disassociated from the local food culture and habits and provided by the companies that manufacture these products, ie direct conflict of interests with the interventions and possible alternatives), characterizing, also, the absence structuring actions which ensure sustainability of the interventions impacts and the autonomy, specificity and sovereignty of the countries in policies development.

We emphasize that it is extremely important to develop strategies to strengthen national systems based on a rights-based approach, including the human right to health, education, land, water and adequate and universal health coverage and access, equity and social participation. Therefore, it seeks to ensure autonomy and sovereignty to national governments and policies sustainability and continuity, as opposed to initiatives

commonly adopted internationally which work with ready, punctual and spatially limited actions, without considering the specificities and requirements of the attended public or the sustainability of the actions and their impacts in the medium and long term.