

EB 154. IBFAN Statement on Agenda Item: 22. Climate change, pollution and health

IBFAN statement Despite contributing the least to the problem, mothers, newborns with undeveloped immune systems and children bear the worst consequences. Breastfeeding is a lifeline for many and the most environmentally friendly way to feed young children.

We must not forget trade rules that are critically important so we welcomed Dr Tedros' urgent call to Codex for a transformation of the world's food system. Corporate-influenced Codex standards have sabotaged the adoption of effective laws and allowed health-harming industries to undermine local agriculture, breastfeeding and biodiverse food systems.

Ultra-processed products with large greenhouse gas, carbon, micro-plastic footprint are promoted with greenwashing claims as the solution to the climate crisis. This has to stop.

Women and children must be the top priority and WHO and Member States must hold companies accountable for any harm they may cause.