

[18]

MEDUNSA



Verw.

MEDUNSA : 26/11/01

Ref.

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MEDIESE UNIVERSITEIT VAN SUIDER-AFRIKA
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

DATUM / DATE : 31 January 1992
AAN / TO : Dr H J S Kayser
FAX NO : 91189 (CODE/KODE): 0401
VAN / FROM : Prof J J Glatthaar, Nutrition Society

Aantal bladsye (hierdie bladsy ingesluit)

Number of pages (including this page) 14

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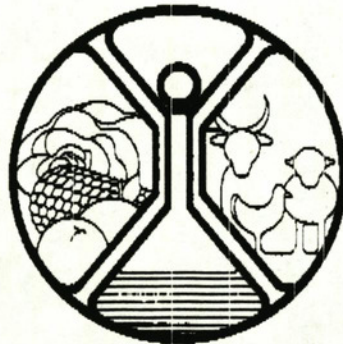
Opmerkings / Comments :

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**The Nutrition Society of Southern Africa
Die Voedingvereniging van Suidelike Afrika**

President: Prof J M Pettifor
Chairman: Prof I I Glatthaar
Voorsitter:
Hon. Secretary/Treasurer: Dr M R Siy
Ere Sekretaris/Tesourier:



Department of Human Nutrition
PO Box 177
MEDUNSA
0204

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Dr H J S Kayser
Minister of Health, Welfare &
Population Development
Private Bag X0016
BISHO
5608

31 January 1992

Dear Dr Kayser

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION: WHO, ROME - DECEMBER 1992

Following discussions with your daughter, Jacky, please find enclosed a set of documents concerning the International Conference on Nutrition to be held in Rome from 5-11 December 1992.

The Conference is being organised jointly by FAO and WHO and is open to all member countries of these 2 organisations, as well as interested international, inter-government and non-government organisations. The ICN aims to present the world community with a unique opportunity to look critically at the problems of hunger, malnutrition and diet-related diseases, in both developing and developed countries, and to commit the political will and the resources necessary for effectively addressing these problems.

I am not aware that South Africa has been invited to participate in this ICN as we are not a member country of WHO/FAO. However, I believe it is of utmost importance that we do try to get some representation at this Conference.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could ensure that this item is discussed by the relevant working group at CODESA as we feel it is of vital importance that the South African delegation should attend the conference at the very least with observer status, but preferably as participants. The key issue here is to get invited and this will have to be accomplished within the next few weeks if we are to make a meaningful contribution.

We thank you for your interest.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'I I Glatthaar'.

PROF I I GLATTHAAR
CHAIRPERSON

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES

Information on

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION (FAO/WHO)

**For: IUNS Adhering Bodies
IUNS Affiliated Bodies
IUNS Committee Chairpersons
IUNS Council**

November 1991 (2)

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION

1. Introduction

The President of IUNS is actively involved in many meetings and discussions regarding ICN. A letter is written to Prof. V. Ramalingaswami, the general coordinator of this conference, to indicate the willingness of IUNS to play an active role in ICN (see Appendix 1).

2. Focal points

Each country will appoint a national focal point responsible for the national coordination of the Conference preparation. It is important to contact these focal points and to offer them our technical services.

In Appendix 2 a copy is given of the information so far regarding national focal points.

3. IUNS position paper

IUNS is invited to prepare a position paper to be presented at ICN. Any suggestions for special points and views to be discussed in such paper should be sent to the Secretary General of IUNS. In this paper the role of nutrition science in development should be highlighted.

4. IUNS Presentation

IUNS is reviewing the possibilities of preparing a display or leaflet for distribution at ICN regarding IUNS.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION

5. Regional and technical meetings

- In the coming months FAO/WHO are organizing regional meetings to prepare documents regarding regional food and nutrition problems.
- From 18-24 August 1992 the main preparatory committee meeting will take place in Rome. In this meeting the Conference documents will be finalized.

6. Dates of ICN

The dates for ICN will be 5 - 11 December 1992.

Appendix 1.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES

President: Prof. José Dutra de Oliveira
 c/o Faculdade de Medicina
 14.100 Ribeirão Preto, SP
 Brazil
 Telephone: 55-16-6346035; Telex: 166354
 Fax: 55-16-6254905

Secretary General: Prof. Joseph Hautvast
 c/o Department of Human Nutrition
 Agricultural University, Bomenweg 2
 P.O. Box 8129, 6700 EV Wageningen
 The Netherlands
 Telephone: 31-8370-82589; Telex: 45015
 Fax: 31-8370-83342

JH/RJ/IUNS U91-215

Dr. V. Ramalingaswami
 c/o Director General
 World Health Organization
 1211 Geneva 27
 Switzerland

9 October 1991

Dear Dr. Ramalingaswami,

IUNS is pleased with the process that has been established, and the progress that has been made towards the forthcoming International Conference on Nutrition. We have appreciated the close collaboration to date with IUNS through the advisory committee and through the ACC/SCN in the planning process. In addition the respective leadership in WHO and FAO is to be commended for stimulating and coordinating preparatory activities at the country level. We all recognize the importance of basing these activities on sound nutrition science.

As you are aware, IUNS is the only international body representing nutrition science. IUNS has over 60 affiliated societies in all regions of the world representing all relevant disciplines. We are encouraging our membership to actively participate at the country level in the preparatory process.

Based on our discussion with Dr. W. Clay (FAO) and Dr. Dj. Benbouzid (WHO), IUNS is preparing a position paper on the role the science of nutrition can play in implementing policy decisions to assure health and nutrition benefits. We will provide this paper to you as background in preparation for the conference. In addition, we are prepared to deliver an oration on this topic at the conference.

The International Conference on Nutrition is a very important milestone for reaching the global health and nutrition goals of the next century. IUNS will have its International Congress of Nutrition in September 1993 and this will be the opportunity to establish another milestone.

We are looking forward to linking our program with that of the ICN as a means of facilitating follow-up activities. We have invited the Director Generals of WHO and FAO to speak in our 1993 Congress.

Meanwhile IUNS will also assist actively in the preparatory regional conferences that will precede the international conference as well as through contact with the focal point at the national level.

With best regards,

Prof. Joseph Hautvast, MD
Secretary General

cc.: Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, Director General WHO
Dr. E. Saouma, Director General FAO



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION



FAO/WHO JOINT SECRETARIAT

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

ICN 5.E

April 1991

GUIDELINES FOR COUNTRY FOCAL POINTS

The International Conference on Nutrition (ICN), organized jointly by FAO and WHO, will be held in Rome in December 1992. This will be the first global intergovernmental conference on nutrition. It will provide a unique opportunity for the international community to address the broad range of issues affecting nutritional status, and develop strategies and plans of action to prevent and alleviate malnutrition in all its forms.

An underlying principle of this International Conference on Nutrition is that it builds upon, and leads to improvements in country-level activities directed at improving nutrition. The country-level preparatory activities will provide inputs into a series of sub-regional/regional meetings, which, in turn, will contribute to the ICN main conference. All will culminate in a global assessment paper, a plan of action and a declaration by government representatives at the main Conference.

These guidelines are a follow-up to the invitations which were extended to Member Countries to participate in the Conference, to designate a focal point and to begin country-level preparations. The guidelines are intended to inform the country focal points of the concepts on which the Conference is based, to assist them in coordinating activities in their country, and to advise them on the overall role they are expected to play in the preparation of the Conference.

The objectives and the concepts on which the Conference is based are discussed in the attached copy of the Summary of the Framework Paper prepared by FAO and WHO for the ICN.

In addition to their role of serving as the primary conduits for all Conference-related communication between the cosponsoring agencies and governments, the country focal points will have four major roles to play; namely, (a) coordinating all ICN-related activities; (b) coordinating country paper preparations; (c) preparing the country participation at the sub-regional/regional meetings, and (d) assessing and securing outside assistance, if required.

a) Coordination of ICN-related Activities

The Conference will provide the opportunity for bringing together each of the sectors that may significantly influence nutrition and for focusing their attention on the role that each may take, either separately or in concert, in improving the nutritional well-being of the population. In fact, it is just this process of heightening the nutritional awareness of a variety of planners and policy makers, and strengthening their capacities to develop and implement effective nutrition-related policies and programmes, that is one of the primary anticipated outcomes of the Conference.

The focal points should, therefore, be able to secure the active participation of relevant agencies and individuals from all sectors of society. They should also facilitate the development of a common understanding of nutritional problems and their causes, and how they could most effectively be addressed within the appropriate planning and programming processes. Working through a select national consultative committee on nutrition could increase the profile of ICN preparatory and follow-up activities within the country. Such a committee would provide a mechanism for ensuring the effective flow of information among the various sectors and agencies involved. The convening of one or more national seminars or workshops could also be useful in preparing for and following-up on the Conference.

In many countries existing or already planned mechanisms and procedures may be adequate and can be used for Conference preparations. Links could be made to on-going programmes or projects or to the preparation of national or sector development plans, where applicable. In many countries, linkage could also be made to the various planning and assessment exercises that many UN and bilateral agencies regularly undertake, such as UNICEF's Situation Analyses, FAO's Comprehensive Food Security Assessments and agriculture sector reviews, WHO's Country Profiles and Country Programmes, the World Bank's structural adjustment and food security programmes, or those related to UNDP's Country Programme.

Public information campaigns, including the use of mass media, to promote nutrition and ICN activities will be an important part of the Conference preparations. A world-wide public-awareness strategy is being developed by FAO and WHO. The focal point in each country will be kept informed of this campaign, and will be provided with the appropriate public awareness and educational materials developed for the ICN. The focal point should establish working contacts with the local media.

b) Coordination of Country Paper Preparation

The individual country papers prepared by the Member Countries is one of the key activities of the ICN preparation process. The country paper should provide an assessment of the nature and magnitude of nutritional problems within the country; an analysis of their causes and related factors; and an appraisal of current efforts to improve nutrition, including an analysis of the constraints encountered. An outline to assist in the preparation of the country paper is attached.

It will be the responsibility of the focal point to coordinate the preparation and submission of the country paper by December 1991 or earlier, if possible. This will require a collaborative effort within each country, involving not only representatives from various government ministries, but also from academia, international agencies, bilateral aid agencies, consumer groups and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector. In particular, many NGOs may have important contributions to the country-level preparation and follow-up of the ICN. Their early and continued involvement should be encouraged. This collaborative effort may be achieved through the seminars or workshops referred to in section (a) above.

c) Sub-Regional/Regional Workshops

The sub-regional/regional workshops will provide a forum for technical consultation, contribute to the development of the ICN agenda, give an opportunity to synthesize ideas and approaches, and also provide the basis for proposals for action which will be presented at the Conference itself.

These sub-regional/regional workshops are important steps in the process leading towards the Conference, and the involvement of country focal points is essential.

d) External Aid

Some countries may choose to seek outside expertise and means to facilitate their preparatory activities. The focal point should be responsible for assessing and securing additional assistance as required. If needed, financial and technical assistance can be sought from a country's existing donors, especially those most active in the fields of nutrition, health and agriculture. While sponsoring agencies are not in a position to provide direct assistance, the FAO and WHO Regional Offices and Country Representatives have been provided with full details of the Conference, and may be able to collaborate with country focal points to attract resources from various international agencies, bilateral agencies and assistance programmes, and NGOs. FAO and

WHO have already contacted other UN agencies, bilateral aid organizations and NGOs concerning ICN preparations and have requested their cooperation and support for country-level activities. Responses received to date, have been very supportive.

In summary, the country focal points for the ICN are to be responsible for:

- o Serving as the overall country liaison for ICN activities;
- o Coordinating country-level ICN activities with FAO and WHO Representatives;
- o Ensuring that the country paper is prepared and submitted by December 1991 (an outline for this paper is attached);
- o Facilitating the wider participation of appropriate individuals and organizations in country-level ICN activities;
- o Establishing working contacts with the local media to promote and increase awareness of ICN-related activities;
- o Ensuring effective country participation in the sub-regional/regional meetings;
- o Collaborating, where applicable, with donor agencies within the country and the region to assess and secure financial and technical assistance for ICN activities.

Questions and comments on ICN preparations should be directed to the FAO and WHO country or regional offices or to the FAO/WHO ICN Joint Secretariat. The country focal points are encouraged to work closely with these offices to be fully apprised of the latest developments in the preparatory activities of the ICN.

ICN NU 19/9



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

WORLD HEALTH
ORGANIZATION

ICN NU 19/9

May 1991

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION (ICN)

1. During the last few decades improvements in socio-economic conditions, food supplies and the use of health services have led to improved nutritional status and increased life-expectancy for much of the world's population. However, extensive poverty and inequality remain, and hunger and severe undernutrition persist as serious problems in many countries. In addition, in many countries diet-related non-communicable diseases are also emerging as serious public health problems. Between these apparent extremes, other forms of malnutrition and diet-related problems - including, for example, various micronutrient deficiencies, mild to moderate protein-energy malnutrition, food-borne infections and illness related to poor quality and unsafe foods - continue to result in a level of suffering and loss of human potential which no country can afford, or should tolerate.

2. In view of the many and complex nutrition problems confronting the world today, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) of the United Nations are co-sponsoring the International Conference on Nutrition (ICN). THE ICN will be open to all Member Countries of FAO and WHO and to interested international, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations. As the first global intergovernmental conference on nutrition, the ICN will present the world community with a unique opportunity to look critically at the problems of hunger, malnutrition and diet-related diseases, in both developing and developed countries, and to commit the political will and the resources necessary for effectively addressing these problems.

3. The ICN is not seen as an end in itself, but as an important step in the continuing process to strengthen the commitment and the actions necessary to prevent and alleviate problems of hunger and malnutrition. Creating and sustaining the momentum to accomplish this is among the fundamental aims of the ICN. Other aims of the ICN are: to ensure that enhanced nutritional well-being and improved human welfare underlie development efforts within all sectors; to promote the utilization of nutritional status as an important indicator of social and economic development and as a useful tool for targeting and monitoring development policies and plans; and to direct special attention and resources to the needs of the least-developed countries and poorer population groups.

4. The ICN will enlist the participation of all sectors, both public and private, involved in development at various levels so that nutrition problems can be addressed in the broadest terms possible and a comprehensive and practical Conference, Declaration and Plan of Action can be prepared and implemented. This process will have several beneficial outcomes at the local, national, regional and international levels.

5. Among the expected outcomes are the following:

At the country level, ICN preparatory activities will include the preparation of a country paper which: provides an assessment of nutritional problems within the country; identifies vulnerable population groups; analyses the causes of the problems; evaluates efforts to promote nutritional well-being; assesses the national capacity for designing, implementing and monitoring relevant policies and programmes; and which provides recommendations for future actions. Intersectoral and multilateral collaboration in the ICN preparation, participation and follow-up will lead to an improved common understanding of nutrition problems and their causes, and how each sector and each agency can most effectively contribute to the prevention and alleviation of nutrition problems.

At the sub-regional and regional levels, ICN preparatory meetings and workshops will synthesize regional nutrition issues and problems, and suggest approaches to resolve them. This will permit the identification of countries with similar problems and constraints and will allow the ICN to give necessary attention to the particular problems of different regions. In addition, these activities should lead to enhanced technical and economic cooperation among neighbouring countries in designing and implementing appropriate national and regional based strategies (for example, those relating to emergency preparedness) to promote and protect nutritional well-being and to enhance information sharing and training.

At the international level, the ICN should lead to an increased awareness of the causes and consequences of malnutrition and how the international community can work together to overcome these problems. This would result in an explicit focus on nutritional well-being within the Fourth Development Decade. Specific strategies and proposals for international action will be developed and resources made available for their implementation. It is also expected that appropriate and cost-effective mechanisms will be developed for collecting and disseminating information on the nutritional status, and the factors that affect it, of vulnerable population groups.

5. The ICN preparatory activities will include the development of a number of technical documents to be used as background for the Conference. A paper on assessment and analysis of current problems and trends in nutrition will assess the extent and the consequences of nutrition and diet-related problems at the regional as well as at the global level, analyze the causes and factors associated with these conditions, evaluate efforts to address them, and provide policy guidance to promote good nutrition. A number of these papers will reflect current thinking and consensus on major nutrition issues and will suggest possible actions which could be appropriate for inclusion in the ICN Plan of Action and follow-up. Case studies will highlight selected features of various nutrition-related problems and efforts to address them.

6. The Conference itself will draw on these documents for the preparation and adoption of: 1) a Declaration on nutrition issues and problems; and 2) a Plan of Action for preventing and alleviating malnutrition through local, national, regional and international actions.

7. In summary, it is expected that the ICN process and follow-up will lead to a strengthened commitment from communities, national governments, international and bilateral agencies and NGOs to direct economic development efforts and resources towards improved human welfare and nutritional well-being. This will include the mobilization of increased resources needed by governments and organizations to implement the ICN Declaration and Plan of Action.

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MEDUNSA : 26/11/01

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**MEDIESE UNIVERSITEIT VAN SUIDER-AFRIKA
MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**

DATUM / DATE : 21 May 1992
AAN / TO : Dr H J S Kayser, Ciskei office
FAX NO : 3972517 (CODE/KODE): 011
VAN / FROM : Prof I I Glatthaar, Nutrition Society

Aantal bladsye (hierdie bladsy ingesluit)

Number of pages (including this page)

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**The Nutrition Society of Southern Africa
Die Voedingvereniging van Suidelike Afrika**

President: Prof J M Pettifor
Chairman: Prof I I Glatthaar
Voorsitter:
Hon. Secretary/Treasurer: Dr M R Sly
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Dr H J S Kayser
Minister of Health, Welfare &
Population Development
Private Bag X0016
BISHO
5608

21 May 1992

Dear Dr Kayser

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION: WHO, ROME - DECEMBER 1992

With reference to the above Conference on Nutrition, I enclose herewith copy of my letter to Dr Wolvaardt and his subsequent reply.

We would very much appreciate it if you could get CODESA to support us in allowing a South African delegation to take part in the above Conference.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. I. Glatthaar'.

PROF I I GLATTHAAR



TEL. 755 78 03
FAX 755 20 38
TELEX 421688

SUID-AFRIKAANSE PERMANENTE MISSIE
SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION

65, RUE DU RHÔNE
1204 GENEVE

The Nutrition Society
of South Africa
Department of Human Nutrition
Medunsa 0204

May 4th, 1992

FAX no : 0027 12 582 323
Attention : Professor I.I. Glatthaar

Dear Professor Glatthaar,


INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION

5 - 11 DECEMBER 1992

The participation of South Africa in this conference has been taken up with the Director General of the W.H.O. The W.H.O. has indicated that they should have a decision on the 21st of May. Indications are at present reasonably favourable that an invitation will be extended to South Africa.

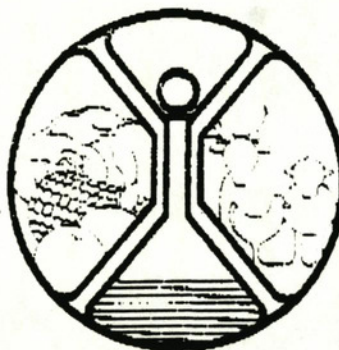
As soon as I have any answer, I shall contact you again.

Regards,


Dr. S.G. Wolvaardt

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The Nutrition Society of Southern Africa
Die Voedingvereniging van Suidelike Afrika



President: Prof J M Pettifor
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Dr G Wolvaardt
Counsellor Social Affairs
South African Permanent Mission
65 Rue du Rhone
1204 GENEVA
SWITZERLAND

Dear Dr Wolvaardt

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION (WHO/FAO)

The Nutrition Society of Southern Africa has through the International Union of Nutritional Sciences been made aware of the above Conference to be held in Rome in December 1992.

The Nutrition Society believes that it is extremely important that a South African delegation be allowed to participate in this meeting, in order that we can start to develop contacts with other countries, especially in Africa, and so that we can start to develop a regional approach to the problems of malnutrition in South Africa. Furthermore, we believe that South Africa has a lot to learn from the way other governments and countries are tackling the problem.

Ideally we would like to see a multi-sectorial delegation attending the Conference, representative of government departments, CODESA, regional health authorities, non-government agencies, as well as academic and scientific institutions. At this stage the key issue is to get South Africa invited to attend the Conference, preferably as active participants, or at least as observers.

Should it be too late for a broad-based delegation to attend, the Nutrition Society itself would very much like to send delegates. We wish to draw attention to the following:

1. The Nutrition Society is a scientific organisation with open membership and is opposed to any form of discrimination;
- 2) We actively oppose the policy of apartheid and have repeatedly lobbied for the government of this country to address the ill-effects of this policy.

cont/... 2

In conclusion, we would appreciate it if you could approach the organisers of the Conference (through Dr V Ramalingaswami) to request that they allow a South African delegation to attend and, if possible, participate in the proceedings.

We look forward to hearing from you soon regarding the outcome of our request, and thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,



PROF I I GLATTHAAR
CHAIRPERSON

4 February 1992