



WHO Executive Board 2023  
Statement by the State of Israel

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**Item #18- United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition**

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Israel continues to welcome the advancement of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition and its noble aim of promoting global nutrition and healthy and sustainable diets.

Israel is proud of its national health lifestyle program, "Efsharibari", that spearheads national strategies based on nutrition-specific goals, aimed at curbing global obesity and encouraging sustainable diets. Among the means of achieving these goals is a rigorous evaluation regimen of infant and child growth and weight gain in Family Clinics and public schools. Meanwhile, HMO digital health records monitor adult obesity, and will report to a proposed national obesity registry.

Other major activities include regularly updated guidelines for breastfeeding, including tailored promotional campaigns to different minority groups. Working hours for mothers with young infants are reduced by law, including one hour aimed to promote breast milk pumping, and maternity leave has been expanded to 14 weeks.

Extensive nutritional education, both in school and in after-school programs, and national guidelines for front-of-pack labels. The labelling reforms have encouraged the food industry to reduce the levels of sugar, sodium and saturated fat in their products. We estimate that this process has reduced the intake of 3-14% of sugar, 16.7-29.1% of saturated fat and 10.8-18.8% of sodium in the average Israeli diet.

Israel shares the recommendations issued at COP26 that advocate for greater awareness on the relationship between nutrition and climate action, and educates the public on the environmental impact of diet while promoting encouraging the transformation of the food supply chain in health care facilities to promote foods, goods and processes with low environmental impact.

Finally, Israel encourages the creation of safe and supporting food environments for children, banning of unhealthy food sales in the education systems, monitoring of the food quality served in in schools, and is considering restricting advertising of unhealthy products.