

Statement of the Slovak Republic
76th World Health Assembly
Item 16.5 UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025)
29 May 2023

Dear Chair,

Slovakia aligns itself with the EU statement on the items.

In support of Maldives and others allow us to have several comments on the safe and effective fortification under the item 16.5 UN Decade of Action on Nutrition:

1. Thanks for WHO work and for leadership of its member states for presenting solutions to micronutrient deficiencies.
2. On the other hand, in some cases we can see examples of misuse, and unnecessary fortification or false claim to benefits.
3. We emphasize the importance of national context and national legal control frameworks to support evidence-based approaches.
4. We would like to underline that when implementing the proposed decision, it is necessary to pay attention also to diseases other than the neurological system and its disorders, as this area goes beyond the narrowly defined neurological group of disorders and conditions mentioned in the title of the decision.
5. As the last point, we would like to call on the Secretariat, Member States and all actors addressing the needs of the communities affected by humanitarian disasters, where we should pay particular attention to the challenge of the affected population and the use of evidence-informed fortification appropriate to the national context.

We are all in the same boat to improve the nutrition and health of a particularly vulnerable population.

In conclusion,

Slovakia calls for methodological collection of the evidence and science based implementation approaches with incorporation of the national frameworks of legal control for the proper implementation of the important proposed decision.

Thank you.