



MINISTERIO
DE CONSUMO



agencia
española de
seguridad
alimentaria y
nutrición



MINISTERIO
DE SANIDAD

Spanish position (Spanish Food Safety and Nutrition Agency – Ministry of Consumer Affairs, and Ministry of Health) on Agenda item N° 18 from draft provisional programme

Spain maintains its commitment to eradicate malnutrition, working at the same time to reverse the upward trend of overweight and obesity.

Malnutrition in all its forms, including its fundamental role in the development of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), encompasses undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, but also overweight and obesity. Diet-related non-communicable diseases are today the leading global cause of death, pointing out diets high in salt and low in whole grains, fruits, vegetables, seeds, nuts and unsaturated fatty acids as the main dietary risk factors.

It is necessary to point out that Zero Hunger Goal number 2 of the 2030 Agenda has the purpose not only of “eradicating hunger”, but also “ensuring access for all people to healthy, nutritious and sufficient food throughout the year” (SDG Target 2.1) and to “end all forms of malnutrition” (SDG Target 2.2).

To achieve this objective, it is essential to design and implement intersectorial strategies that allow the entire population access to healthy, safe and sustainable food.

At the national level, the Spanish Food Safety and Nutrition Agency, belonging to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, develops through the NAOS Strategy (Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Prevention), several actions and interventions, based on scientific evidence and in all areas of society (family, educational, business, health, work, community) to promote and facilitate access to a varied, balanced diet and physical activity, as well as the most appropriate information to help consumers make healthier decisions and choices. The initiatives developed within the framework of the NAOS Strategy, although aimed at the population as a whole, prioritize those aimed at children, young people and the most disadvantaged population groups, with a gender approach and avoiding health inequalities.

In addition, the Ministry of Health works on the promotion of healthy environments and lifestyles, through several lines of work such as the Strategy for Health Promotion and Prevention in Health Nacional System (EPSP), which includes prioritized actions in health, local and educational settings and addresses, among other factors, healthy eating and physical activity. The approach followed by the EPSP is comprehensive, intersectorial, equitable and generates settings that make healthier decisions easier to adopt.

Spain supports actions proposed by WHO to accelerate efforts to effectively address all forms of malnutrition.