World Health Organization

EXECUTIVE BOARD
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Application from the International Food Policy Research Institute for admission into official relations with WHO

1. General information

(a) Name and address of the headquarters

International Food Policy Research Institute
2033 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20006
United States of America

Website: http://www.ifpri.org/

(b) Link to the entity's profile in the WHO Register of non-State actors

http://apps.who.int/register-nonstate-actors/nsa.aspx?id=245

2. Aims/purpose/objective of the entity

Established in 1975, the International Food Policy Research Institute aims to operate for charitable, educational and scientific purposes and to undertake programmes on an impartial and non-partisan basis to conduct research and promote the exchange of information on policy and programmes affecting the production, consumption, trade, distribution and availability of food throughout the world, with particular emphasis on the needs of low-income countries.

3. Other criteria for the admission of the entity into official relations with WHO

International structure/scope: The Institute has its headquarters in the United States of America, regional offices in Ethiopia, India and Senegal and project offices in numerous countries in Africa and south Asia, including Bangladesh, Nigeria and Pakistan. It has more than 500 staff, working in over 50 countries. Its work is focused on promoting global food security, and it engages in policy research and discussion at the international level, using the results from its activities to influence agenda-setting at the global level.

Constitution/by-laws: The Institute has by-laws that were last modified and approved by its Board of Trustees in May 2014.

Governing body: The Institute is governed by a Board of Trustees, which is currently composed of 13 members. The Institute is one of the 15 independent research centres coordinated by the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers, known as the CGIAR Consortium, which has the right to appoint half the Board members in consultation with the Board. The other members are elected by the majority vote of current trustees. The Institute's Director-General is an ex officio member of the Board.

Administrative structure: The International Food Policy Research Institute has its headquarters in Washington, DC. It is headed by a Director-General, who manages his own office and six other divisions in Washington, DC, and the three regional offices. The Institute leads two of the CGIAR Consortium's research programmes – one on policies, institutions and markets, and the other on agriculture for nutrition and health – and is involved in others.

Financial information: The Institute's total income in 2014 was US$ 167 million. Its revenue is primarily derived from cost-reimbursement-type grants and contracts. Most of the funding received by the Institute is channelled through the CGIAR Fund. Donors designate their funds to one or more of three funding windows. Funds received through Window 1 are allocated by the Fund Council to the CGIAR Consortium's research programmes. Funds received through Window 2 are designated by the donors to specific research programmes. Window 3 funds are allocated to specific CGIAR research centres to finance research programmes or other activities. The funding base established through the different windows and through bilateral funding is extremely broad. In addition to the main donors (the Consortium and the Government of the United States of America), the donors supporting the Institute's programmes are other governmental entities, universities, nongovernmental organizations, foundations and some private sector entities. In total, over 100 entities supported the Institute in 2014.

4. Collaboration with WHO

(a) Activities carried out with WHO over the past three years

The International Food Policy Research Institute has had observer status in the Codex Alimentarius Commission since 2012, and in that context has contributed information on nutrition research results, especially to the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses to support the establishment of a standard definition of biological fortification (biofortification). This work is ongoing.

The Institute collaborates with WHO and other stakeholders in the development of the Global nutrition report, which presents an overview of existing processes, highlights progress in combating malnutrition, and identifies gaps and proposes ways to fill them. WHO is represented in the report's Stakeholder Group and Executive Committee and its technical officers contribute to the work of the Independent Expert Group, which is responsible for producing the report, and the Data Access Group.

The inaugural Global nutrition report 2014[1] was launched at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, held in Rome in November 2014. It gained a high profile, as it was the first report of its kind, providing over 80 key indicators covering 193 countries and urging policy-makers and development professionals to take into account the global nature of malnutrition. The report aims to empower nutrition champions at the national level in order to better inform policy decisions and

[1] International Food Policy Research Institute. 2014. Global nutrition report 2014: actions and accountability to accelerate the World's progress on nutrition. Washington, DC.

increase resources. In addition, it provides a repository of global and country-level nutrition data and analysis, measuring the scale of malnutrition, describing measures taken to combat it and highlighting what more needs to be done. As at August 2015, the report had been downloaded over 59 000 times.

The Global nutrition report 2015[1] focuses on the progress made by countries in meeting the six global nutrition targets that were adopted in 2012 by the Sixty-fifth World Health Assembly,[2] and examines how well the commitments made in this regard are being met by the different stakeholders. It also highlights the critical relationship between climate change and nutrition, and the role of business in advancing nutrition. The report was launched in New York and Washington, DC, and there will be follow-up events in other locations around the world in 2015 and into 2016.

The Institute's collaboration with WHO also includes a Cochrane review on the nutritional, socioeconomic, agronomic and other critical aspects of biofortified crops, which is expected to be published in early 2016. In addition, the Institute has contributed research findings to the WHO e-Library of Evidence for Nutrition Actions to support WHO in communicating and disseminating published standards, guidelines and recommendations.

(b) Planned collaborative activities with WHO for the coming three-year period

The International Food Policy Research Institute and WHO will collaborate in joint evidence-informed advocacy work for cost-effective programming to prevent undernutrition, and stunting by enhancing the nutrient density of staple crops, to promote behaviour modification strategies and to set global platforms for monitoring progress towards the global goals that pertain to malnutrition, with particular emphasis on the rural poor, women and children.

One major series of collaborative activities pertains to WHO's critical review of the scientific evidence on the biofortification of staple crops with increased vitamins and minerals as a public health nutrition intervention. The Institute will provide technical support to WHO in the preparation of technical documents for a consultation on staple crops biofortified with increased micronutrient content for improving vitamin and mineral status in populations, to be convened jointly with FAO in New York, in April 2016. The Institute's technical staff will collaborate with WHO to identify potential authors for some of the reviews and assist in the implementation of the consultation. The consultation will contribute to the WHO Guidelines Review Committee's resolution on biofortification and complement the parallel ongoing work of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses to establish a standard definition of biofortification. It will also provide further evidence for the WHO e-Library of Evidence for Nutrition Actions.

The aim of the Stakeholder Group is to release the Global nutrition report 2016 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The International Food Policy Research Institute and WHO will continue to collaborate in producing, launching and disseminating this report in years to come.

At the Micronutrient Forum's 2016 Global Conference, to be held in Cancun, Mexico, the Institute is planning to organize a joint symposium on essential nutrition actions with WHO. At the International Union of Nutritional Sciences' Twenty-first International Congress of Nutrition, to be

[1] International Food Policy Research Institute. 2015. Global nutrition report 2015: actions and accountability to advance nutrition and sustainable development. Washington, DC.

[2] Resolution WHA65.6 on comprehensive implementation plan for maternal, infant and young child nutrition (2012). See document WHA65/2012/REC/1, Annex 2, for the six global targets.

held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 2017, the Institute and WHO are planning to organize a joint session on priority activities in agriculture and nutrition and PAHO is planning to participate in a media event on biofortification with other global micronutrient malnutrition prevention organizations. The two organizations will also perform joint advocacy work for essential nutrition actions including biofortification at major regional nutrition and development events held in the WHO African and South-East Asia Regions.

Furthermore, the Institute is represented by a staff member in the WHO/UNICEF Technical expert advisory group on nutrition monitoring for the period 2015–2017. This group will advise WHO on how to improve the quality of nutrition monitoring at all levels through the facilitation of shared learning and the development of harmonized standards, tools and approaches in several relevant sectors. In relation to work on maternal, newborn and child health, the Institute has submitted an application for membership to the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health to strengthen existing collaboration in the area of nutrition and maternal, newborn and child health.

5. Other relevant information

Due diligence and risk assessment conducted by the Secretariat on the entity concluded that an application from the International Food Policy Research Institute could be presented to the Executive Board for its consideration.

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