

Another step in the building of SISAN

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By Onaur Ruano

Our country made the choice to manage public policies through democratic and participative systems, of which the best known examples are the Unified Health System (SUS) and the Unified Social Assistance System (SUAS). These demonstrate, in an unquestionable manner, how this has been a correct choice. Now, we are under way building the National System for Food and Nutrition Security (SISAN), with the huge challenges imposed by inter sectoring, but with the assurance of a safe path, advancing each step, with the cumulated learning and the innovated creativity of our society and government.

SISAN was established by Law no. 11.346, of September 15th, 2006, also known as the Federal Law on Food and Nutrition Security (LOSAN), having in mind securing the human right to adequate food. It has as its objectives; to formulate and implement policies and food and nutrition security, stimulate the integration of the efforts between the government and civil society, as well as promoting the following up, monitoring and evaluation of the country's food and nutrition security. It is a public system, of inter sector and participative management, which enables the articulation among the three levels of government – as well as the organized civil society – for the implementation and execution of the food and nutrition security policies.

With the establishment of LOSAN, in 2006, followed by the 3rd National Conference on Food and Nutrition Security, in July 2007, and the publishing of Decrees numbers 6.272/2007 and 6.273/2007, the basic structure of SISAN in the federal sphere was established as: the National Conference on Food and Nutrition Security (CNSAN), National Council on Food and Nutrition Security (CONSEA) and the Inter ministerial Chamber on Food and Nutrition Security (CAISAN), each instance with its own attributions and responsibilities being clearly defined, but, especially, articulated in the perspective of the building of the System, Policy and National Plan on Food and Nutrition Security.

For the continuity of the structuring of SISAN, the fundamental attributions of the State, Federal District and Municipalities governments are, among others, established by Decree 7.272/2010; (I) to implant the respective Inter-sector Chambers of Food and Nutrition Security, a government instance similar in its composition and attributions to the National CAISAN ; (ii) to establish and back up the Food and Nutrition Security Council in its sphere, with two thirds of the civil society's representatives and one third of government representatives, with attributions similar to those of the National CONSEA, and (iii) to convoke the Food Security Conference in its sphere, in articulation with the council.

In the year of the 4th National Conference on Food and Nutrition Security, which will be held from the 7th to the 10th November, in Salvador (BA), we have established the target to arrive at the conference with all the Unites of the Federation ready for adhesion to SISAN, so that we are able from this point, to advance in the perspective of reaching the

municipalities all over the country. We are mobilizing and assisting the state governments which have not yet reached the minimum requirements for adhesion to SISAN, recommending them to create their State Laws on Food and Nutrition Security, similar to LOSAN's (Law no. 11.346/2006) and adequate to each state's reality. These minimum requirements which various states have already fulfilled, consist in exercising their basic attributes as foreseen in Decree 7.272/2010 and mentioned previously, regulating as from the state law, the Council and the Inter sector Chamber with decrees, and signing the Term of Adhesion, committing themselves to elaborate the State Plan on Food and Nutrition Security, in a maximum of 12 months from the date of this signature.

Recently the Minister of Social Development and Actions Against Hunger (MDS), Tereza Campello, who is also the President of CAISAN, sent a correspondence to all the governors, stressing the importance of this construction and establishing a target to institutionalize SISAN in all the units of the Federation. With the compromised participation of the state governments and State Councils on Food and Nutrition Security, we shall arrive at the 4th Conference with SISAN structured in all the states, and the Federal District, as well as in many municipalities, overcoming one more challenge in this historic construction.

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