



**Presidência da República**  
Conselho Nacional de Segurança  
Alimentar e Nutricional



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Brasília, October 27 2014.

Letter 327 - 2014/ CONSEA

To Your Excellencies

**Margaret Chan**

General Director of the World Health Organization (WHO)

**José Graziano da Silva**

General Director of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

**Gerda Verburg**

President of the UN Committee on Food Security (CFS)

C/c:

**Tereza Campello**

Minister of Social Development and Fight Against Hunger (MDS)

**Arthur Chioro**

Minister of Health (MS)

**Luiz Alberto Figueiredo Machado**

Minister of Foreign Affairs (MRE).

**Subject:** 2nd International Conference on Nutrition - ICN2, Rome 19 to 21 November 2014

Excellencies,

I have noted with satisfaction that negotiations sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) resulted in the Rome Declaration and Plan of Action to be ratified at the 2nd International Conference on Nutrition that will be held in Rome in the next 19 to 21 November.

Besides congratulate Your Excellencies for this effort, as President of the National Council for Food and Nutrition Security (CONSEA), allow me to highlight two issues that are important to us in terms of content and the following of the conference.



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With regard to the content, we reaffirm the centrality of the human rights framework, particularly the human right to adequate food, the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies on food and nutrition. We understand also that the effectiveness of government action cannot be achieved without the involvement of movements and civil society organizations, especially those who are most affected by food and nutrition insecurity in all its manifestations (malnutrition, nutritional deficiencies, overweight and obesity, among others). The success of the Brazilian experience is due in large part to the critical and institutionalized dialogue between government and society. It is also very important for us to share our understanding that adequate nutrition in addition to universal access to health care, is especially resulting from a model of production and consumption of food in family farming centered production, agro-ecology, food sovereignty, decent work and in fighting against any kind of discrimination (gender, race, ethnicity, religion, culture and generational). It is precisely this context that strengthens the conditions for the realization of the Human Right to Adequate Food and ensures food and nutrition security.

Regarding the following of the conference, we understand that this is a strategic issue to effectively combat all forms of inadequate nutrition in the world. We also reinforce the importance of FAO and WHO in this segment, especially regarding its normative and support to its Member States in building robust public policies capable of addressing the scourges stemming from systematic violations of the human right to adequate food. Taking into account our national experience, allow me to suggest the involvement of the Committee on Food Security (CFS) in this segment governance because, besides the Committee has nutrition in its mandate, it is the only UN intergovernmental platform that has social participation in an institutionalized form. This mechanism of inclusion and democratization of discussions in the field of food and nutrition security is fundamental to the legitimacy and effectiveness of public policies to be implemented by countries. We also believe that the CFS may be a key partner in building mechanisms to resolve conflicts of interest, as required in an area that is increasingly being captured by privatizing interests of transnational agri-food sector. Finally, we understand that nutrition is a cross-cutting issue, involving several UN agencies - **i.e.** childhood, women, agriculture, education, health, food



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security, food distribution, development. To streamline procedures, avoid overlapping and parallel actions, as well as leverage scarce public resources becomes necessary to promote an internal mechanism of the UN to make interagency coordination in the area of nutrition. In our view, such a mechanism must be led by the Member States of FAO, WHO and CFS, should refer to them, be open to the participation and cooperation of social movements and organizations of public interest, academia and intersectoral government representatives and be based on the principles of transparency and accountability.

We reaffirm our permanent commitment to promoting adequate nutrition, not only in Brazil, but also in the rest of the world and put ourselves available for any kind of collaboration.

Respectfully,

*Maria Emília Lisboa Pacheco*  
**Maria Emília Lisboa Pacheco**  
Presidenta do CONSEA