

## CODE OF CONDUCT

### Task Force 1 – Food Consumption Patterns (for healthy and sustainable diets)

#### Report of the second meeting – 8 April 2021

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In the **second** meeting, members further discussed the **thematic prioritization, potential aspirational objectives, indicative actions** and **enablers**. A **compilation of members' extensive feedback** to the "homework questions" was presented by the co-rapporteur. Responses were received from 15 of the 20 members.

The discussions could be summarised according to the following **main points**:

- **Amend aspirational objective 1:**
  - To include: "non-communicable diseases" and "*sustainable food production systems*";
  - To reword with focus on "*improved nutrition and sustainable diets*"
- **Actions:**
  - **Level of granularity** still to be agreed, due to the diverging views between i) indicative examples and ii) as detailed as possible;
  - **Coherence** with existing and upcoming F2F Strategy legislation;
  - **Product reformulation** was seen as a leading action to uptake;
  - **Pricing/affordability** warrant careful review for competition reasons and so that inequalities are not increased;
  - **Competition rules** must be respected when considering any proposal for joint action
  - **Actions** need to be backed by **science and data**;
  - **Enablers & actors' capacity** were discussed in detail and in relation to one another.
- **Level of ambition:** it was reiterated that this Code is an opportunity for food chain actors to show their ambition in raising their sustainability performance.
- **Language:** whilst overall agreement exists around the direction of the aspirations, targets and the actions' examples from the first meeting, the language and wording were emphasized as crucial determinants for the level of ambition:
  - Different views were provided as to whether the aspirational objective should make reference to "**balanced diets**" or "**healthy diets**", the latter being more directional but also potentially more stigmatising towards certain food and drink categories;
  - **(environmental) sustainability** and **health** should be further clarified because the two are not interpreted as synonymous, particularly concerning **nutritional footprint**.
- **Consumer awareness:** whilst deemed crucial for companies to step-up their actions towards consumer awareness on sustainability in their daily engagement, these should be underpinned by policymakers' efforts in consumer education in line with (national) nutrition guidelines.
- **Food sustainability consumer education** was seen as the top priority action for policymakers.

**A compromise table with was presented by the Chair based on the made comments. All members would have the opportunity to provide written feedback based on it.**

The following points were raised in relation to this:

- Consensus around the choice of compromise wording on "healthy, balanced and sustainable diets";
- Clarification that enablers should support and incentivise actors in taking actions and should come from stakeholders other than the middle of the chain (e.g public authorities).

Building on the progress made during the meeting, preparatory **questions** for the **next meeting** (6 **May 2021**, 10:00-13:00) were presented, the feedback of which is **due** by **29 April 2021** close of business.

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