



# UN SYSTEM STANDING COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION

## Action Plan 2006-2010 and Biennium Budget 2006-2007

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*The SCN was conceived to serve as a point of convergence for the UN system in the area of nutrition and food and nutrition policy, ensuring that the system-wide response is indeed greater than the sum of the individual efforts. The SCN is not in itself another agency. The SCN is a forum in which the agencies come together to harmonize policies and programmes, coordinate activities, and act together to achieve global nutritional aims. Its structures and functions exist to support the overall effort, to do what no single agency, acting alone, can do.*

### ACTION PLAN 2006-2010

1. The importance of rational food and nutrition policies and interventions for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has been amply discussed and demonstrated.<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately the nutrition dimensions of national development plans are frequently lacking, both in terms of nutrition concepts and content. Globally progress towards achieving the monetary poverty reduction targets (those on less than a dollar a day) is on track, but the hunger and undernutrition targets are not.<sup>2</sup> Global leaders agreed to work in their own countries and also

collectively towards the goal of halving the proportion of underweight young children from 28% in 1990 to 14% in 2015. Ten years later the target seems very unlikely to be met, as 27% of young children are still underweight. In Africa child underweight rates continue to rise and a third of the population continue to experience hunger. It is clear that poverty reduction and increased food production alone will not solve the nutrition problems facing the poor populations in low income countries, and in Africa urgent action is needed.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> SCN 2004 *5<sup>th</sup> Report on the World Nutrition Situation: Nutrition for improved development outcomes*. Geneva: SCN Secretariat.

<sup>2</sup> FAO 2005 *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2005: Eradicating World Hunger – key to achieving the Millennium Development Goals*. Rome: FAO.

<sup>3</sup> SCN 2005 *The critical role of nutrition for reaching the Millennium Development Goals: Summary of conclusions and recommendations*. Summary and conclusions of an Information Meeting held 7th June 2005 (10 am – 12 noon), ECOSOC Chamber, UN, New York. Geneva: SCN Secretariat.

2. In general at all levels there is limited knowledge and understanding of the actual and potential roles, relationships and complementarities of the many relevant UN agencies,<sup>4</sup> the many relevant ministries within national governments, and the multitude of relevant NGOs in addressing malnutrition. As just one example, the headquarters offices of the UN agencies often have limited awareness of what their nutrition units are doing at country level, nor how they could contribute to improving their inputs in order to strengthen the efforts of the UN Country Team (UNCT) food and nutrition theme groups in a *joined up* way.

The country case studies developed for the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session, provide concrete examples of the sorts of problems that the SCN membership faces at the country level, and that the SCN body urgently needs to try to address together.<sup>5</sup> The case studies looked at how food and nutrition programmes are included in national development plans in order to help meet the MDGs and how to strengthen them in the context of realizing the Human Right to Adequate Food (HRAF). The assessments revealed that there is an enormous amount of confusion around nearly all the food and nutrition indicators. All countries experienced the double burden of both over and undernutrition, and often they coexist in the same households. The terms hunger and malnutrition are not always used with the same meaning by different nutrition professionals, let alone other non-specialized actors. Consequently the key messages used often lack consistency and are contradictory. There was no common understanding about the life-cycle nature of the nutrition problems,

and what programme components are needed to ensure the achievement of both food and nutrition security, neither in the UN agencies, nor the government counterparts. The dominant *nutrition in development paradigm* is that hunger and malnutrition are caused by poverty and ignorance, and that they will improve if livelihoods (economic growth and incomes) and education services improve. Food and nutrition are often thought of as humanitarian or charity type actions, and the notion that the proactive solution of hunger and malnutrition can be a platform for accelerating development was not commonly understood by the development actors.

3. The need to establish a UN system wide communication and partnership building strategy aimed at creating a common vision among the UN agencies on how to achieve freedom from hunger and malnutrition and realize the human right to adequate food was largely endorsed by the SCN body at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session.<sup>6</sup>

4. The ongoing UN reform aimed at strengthening the country level UN capacity to help achieve the MDGs,<sup>7</sup> provides a window of opportunity for the SCN to realize its vision and mandate at the country level. The 2005 World Summit Outcome document affirms that *the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition is crucial for the achievement of the MDGs*, and commits the UN to implement current reforms aimed at a more effective, efficient, coherent, coordinated and better performing UN country presence.<sup>8</sup> The UN Resident Coordinator system will be strengthened, with the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) taking a lead role in guiding the other UN country teams in developing the Common Country Assessments (CCA) and the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which will become the results matrix used to judge the effectiveness of the UN system at the country level. Country

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<sup>4</sup> Gillespie S, McLachlan M, Shrimpton R (Eds). 2003. *Combating Malnutrition: Time to Act*. Washington. World Bank..

<sup>5</sup> Shrimpton R, Kracht U, Recine E, Valente F 2005. *The SCN Four Country Case Studies: Integrating food and nutrition interventions in national development plans in order to accelerate the achievement of the MDGs in the context of realizing the human right to adequate food. A Synthesis of Findings and Recommendations*. Geneva: SCN Secretariat. (available at URL: [http://www.unsystem.org/scn/Publications/country\\_case\\_studies/SYNTHESIS%20Executive%20Summary.doc](http://www.unsystem.org/scn/Publications/country_case_studies/SYNTHESIS%20Executive%20Summary.doc))

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<sup>6</sup> SCN 2005 *Report of the Standing Committee on Nutrition on its 32<sup>nd</sup> Session*. Geneva: SCN Secretariat.

<sup>7</sup> Annan K 2005 *In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all*. New York: UN.

<sup>8</sup> UN 2005. *2005 World Summit Outcome*. New York: UN.

Programme Action Plans (CPAP) will be developed that are derived from the UNDAF, and which feed into and support the implementation of national development and poverty reduction strategies based on Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs).<sup>9</sup> If the MDGs are to be met, then food and nutrition interventions have to become a priority in these country level processes. The achievement of targets for poverty and hunger reduction should prioritize child growth indicators among others as the concrete results that the success of such processes would be judged by.

5. In order to pursue the SCN vision and realize its mandate during the next five years (2006- 2010), five broad cross-cutting areas of activity will be pursued by the SCN, through its Steering Committee and its Working Group structures, with facilitation from the Secretariat. These five areas are agreed by the SCN body to be the key areas for an SCN *Action Plan*<sup>1</sup> and include:

- ❑ advocacy, communication and partnership building
- ❑ assessment, monitoring and evaluation
- ❑ development of integrated approaches
- ❑ the mainstreaming of human rights
- ❑ identifying key scientific and operational gaps.

6. The human rights dimensions of food and nutrition programmes are not included as a stand alone set of activities in this *Action Plan*. Human rights including social, economic and cultural rights are central to all areas of UN activity as part of the ongoing process of UN Reform approved in 1997.<sup>10</sup> The HRAF is therefore treated as a cross cutting theme that has to be addressed in all the other four key areas of activity of the SCN *Action Plan*.

<sup>9</sup> Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP) are prepared by governments to enable them to receive Poverty reduction Support Credits from the World Bank and IMF as part of the renamed (in 2000) structural adjustment programme.

<sup>10</sup> Annan, K 1997 Renewing the United Nations: A programme for reform. Report A/51/950. New York: United Nations.

## OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

7. The overarching objective of the SCN is to support the progressive realization of the human right to adequate food, and as a minimum to be free from hunger and malnutrition, promoting the Voluntary Guidelines in order to realize the human right to adequate food and to achieve the MDGs.<sup>11</sup>

8. The specific objectives of the SCN *Action Plan* are three-fold:

- i) to establish regional and country level UN mechanisms for strengthening food and nutrition considerations and interventions into PRSPs as well as national development strategies at the country level, in order to ensure the achievement of the MDGs and the realization of the right to adequate food, while at the same time preventing the development of nutrition related chronic diseases. (NRCDs)
- ii) to establish across all UN agencies, ministerial sectors and development actors a common vision, language and understanding of the causes of hunger and malnutrition
- iii) to mobilize increased support for all food and nutrition agencies of the UN in the context of realizing the right to safe, nutritionally adequate available and culturally acceptable food in a world free from hunger and malnutrition.

9. The *Action Plan* has four targets, to be achieved by 2010. All should be achieved in at least 20 countries in Africa, 20 countries in Asia and Latin America, and 10 in other regions. These are to have:

- i) adequate and coherent food and nutrition components installed in the poverty reduction strategies and national development plans
- ii) developed, tested and implemented at scale coherent interagency and intersectoral food and nutrition programmes and communication strategies
- iii) developed and implemented a coherent interagency social mobilization and

<sup>11</sup> SCN News No 30, Mid 2005, Closing the Gap on the Right to Adequate Food: The Voluntary Guidelines.

partnership building strategy for food and nutrition

iv) developed, tested and implemented a common interagency monitoring and evaluation strategy for food and nutrition programmes.

## STRATEGY

10. The SCN is not in itself an implementing agency. It is a forum in which the relevant UN agencies come together to harmonize their nutrition policies and programmes, coordinate activities and promote *joint action*, in partnership and common cause with representatives of national governments (the Bilateral Partners) and of non-government organizations (the NGOs/CSOs). Implementation of an *Action Plan* that goes beyond advocacy is therefore a challenge. However much can be achieved as the whole structure of the SCN (office of the Chair, Secretariat, Steering Committee, Working Groups, the elected representatives of the Bilateral Partners and of the NGOs/CSOs, and the whole SCN membership) work together to ensure complementarity of action, add value to existing processes and help agencies to do what they could not do in isolation. The formal responsibility for devising and monitoring the *Action Plan*, and for reporting to the membership, rests with the Steering Committee.

11. In order to develop and implement the SCN *Action Plan*, individual agencies including those that supply members of the SCN Steering Committee will provide leadership of three task forces established for each action area of the *Action Plan*. These task forces will seek to harmonize and capitalize on the related work being done across the various constituents of the SCN, and draw on and provide support to the working group activities of relevance. The Secretariat will facilitate and support these efforts, but not lead them. Working in this way it is envisaged that together, the SC will promote the development of consistent overall interagency plans of action for food and nutrition to be implemented by the UN Country teams.

12. In order to carry out the *Action Plan*, extra resources will be required, above and beyond those currently budgeted by the members of the SCN as contributions to the SCN from their own organizations. These resources are broadly indicated in the programme budget of the SCN, as approved at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session. In collaboration with the Chair, the Secretariat will take a lead role in seeking such extra resources. In this way the Secretariat will become a funding channel for the nutrition units of the various agencies, with earmarked funds being provided in order to carry out the joint activities of the *Action Plan*.

## ACTION AREAS

13. The five action areas of the SCN *Action Plan* include programme communication, monitoring and evaluation, development of integrated approaches, filling of knowledge and implementation gaps and the realization of human rights, and in particular the HRAF. The realization of human rights is a cross cutting concern that has to be embedded in the other four areas of activities.

14. In the event that funds are not available to carry out all of the action areas, and that some prioritization of these actions is needed, then the first priority is for the advocacy and communication activities, followed by the monitoring and evaluation activities. It should be recognized however that the specific objectives are related to the concrete development of coordinated and integrated food and nutrition activities at the country level. Failure to achieve this country level coordination will result in the continued failure of food and nutrition programmes to demonstrate their full potential impact, and the failure of the key aspects of this *Action Plan*.

## Advocacy, Communication and Partnership Building Activities

15. The Advocacy, Communication and Partnership building Task Force is led by WHO and supported by UNICEF. The communications and partnership building

activities seek to harmonize communication concepts around hunger and malnutrition problems across the UN system, in order to:

- ❑ reduce problems of assessment and programme definition
- ❑ to raise the profile of the importance of food and nutrition programmes in the public eye
- ❑ to generate a good understanding of the roles and complementarities of different agencies and institutions in the fight against malnutrition
- ❑ to mobilize coordinated support for all food and nutrition agencies of the UN in the context of being free from hunger and malnutrition and realizing the right to adequate food.

16. Synergy with the FIVIMS process (which aims at using information on food insecure and vulnerable population groups for improved policy formulation, programming and targeting) and other relevant initiatives will be systematically pursued, especially at the country level in the development of integrated approaches (see sections 25-31 below). As part of such a thrust the use of child growth measurements also needs to be revisited looking at both overnutrition and undernutrition aspects. The launching of the new growth standards by WHO in 2006 which have the potential of transforming global health, will be used as the entry point for revitalizing this area of activity.

17. The communication sections of the UN agencies involved in the Steering Committee will work in a collaborative fashion to harmonize concepts across agencies. The development and implementation of a joint strategy will require a central dedicated interagency staff person. For this reason such a position was included in the SCN core budget for 2006/7.

18. This new area of work will also facilitate the development of fund raising and partnership building activities in support of the SCN *Action Plan* as a whole. The advocacy work will seek to expand into other media, such as web and mass communications

channels, in order to improve the dissemination of food and nutrition advocacy messages.

19. Ongoing work managed directly by the Secretariat will continue to be developed in the area of global level advocacy and publications (*Reports on the World Nutrition Situation*, *SCN News*, Policy Papers) linked to the continued organization of annual Sessions and support to Working Groups. The promotion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Report on the World Nutrition Situation in 2006/7 will also fall under this area of work.

### Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation

20. The Task Force for Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation is led by FAO and supported by WFP. The monitoring of the food and nutrition situation and the relationship of these indicators to the achievement of the MDGs, especially MDG1, will be one of the main focuses for the task force.

21. The SCN assessment, monitoring and evaluation activities will build on the work of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping Systems (IAWG-FIVIMS), the Secretariat of which is hosted by FAO. A broad set of indicators relevant for food insecurity and vulnerability analysis has been identified by the IAWG-FIVIMS.<sup>12</sup> However, it has been recognised that the further development and refinement of indicators measuring food deprivation and undernutrition (including the undernourishment or hunger indicator) is one priority area for action.<sup>13</sup> The new growth curves from WHO will also provide impetus for revisiting growth monitoring and for revising estimates of child malnutrition, especially stunting as currently defined. One of the main aims of the task force should be

<sup>12</sup> FIVIMS *Tools and Tips 2002 Making FIVIMS work for you - Selecting Indicators for National FIVIMS*. Rome, FIVIMS. (<http://www.fivims.net/images/ToolsandTips>)

<sup>13</sup> FAO 2005 *Workshop on Improving Measurement and Assessment of Food Deprivation and Undernutrition*, Rome, Italy, 24-25 January 2005. Rome: FAO.

to establish stunting as the principal evaluative indicator for poverty reduction.

22. Monitoring and evaluation frameworks for national food and nutrition components of poverty reduction strategies and national development plans will be developed for country level promotion by the UN Country Teams. Also in this context, lessons can be drawn from the work of the agencies associated with the FIVIMS Initiative. Many preparatory activities should be carried out by a cross section of SCN members in order to ensure that the appropriate indicators are included into MICS and DHS surveys. The interface of FIVIMS and DEVINFO<sup>14</sup> also needs to be developed, in order that UNCTs can be assisted in this regard. The task force will also seek to articulate the country level monitoring systems for MDG achievement with the reporting obligations to the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies, including the monitoring for the HRAF.

23. The Interagency Nutrition Initiative (INI) will be developed in order to improve the evidence base on effectiveness of programmes aimed at promoting appropriate child growth and development. The long term aim of this initiative is to establish and refine the evidence base for programmes which prove effective in reducing height growth faltering and establish the capacity to prospectively monitor and evaluate future programmes. The first phase of the initiative involves mapping the existing evidence base of reports of evaluations of large scale programmes which since 1980 have measured impact on growth. In the second phase an inventory of current programmes meeting minimum evaluation criteria will be established, and a proposal developed for conducting a prospective evaluation of these programmes in at least ten countries. The third phase (2007-9) will be to carry out these various evaluations using the criteria and the understanding developed in the first two phases of the work.

24. The SCN Secretariat publishes the Nutrition Information in Crisis Situations (NICS) series quarterly. The NICS database contains information on the malnutrition and mortality rates of populations in crisis situations across the globe, going back over ten years. Survey reports are regularly received from agencies involved in providing assistance to such populations. This series will be continued and improved in terms of its rigour and analysis. Assessments and monitoring of the situations of populations in crisis, especially refugees in stable situations, will be carried out to determine the optimal food and nutrition inputs in such circumstances. The NICS Reports will be published every three months, and will be coordinated with the development of the Health and Nutrition Tracking Service being planned by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), where UNICEF is the focal point for nutrition in emergencies and WHO the focal point for health in emergencies.<sup>15</sup>

### Development of Integrated Approaches

25. The Task Force for developing integrated approaches is led by UNICEF with support from WFP and the World Bank, together with the active involvement of WHO, FAO and the International Alliance Against Hunger.<sup>16</sup> The main aim of this interagency initiative is to strengthen the food and nutrition components of PRSPs and national development plans that are prepared by countries to achieve the MDGs, especially MDG 1 and MDG 4. These efforts will build on and bring together various relevant initiatives, including: The WHO/FAO led work on developing national nutrition action plans; The UN System Network on Rural Development and Food Security<sup>17</sup> through its thematic groups and the National Alliances Against Hunger; and the WFP/UNICEF/World Bank initiative for Ending Child Hunger and Malnutrition which

<sup>14</sup> UNDG 2005 Inter-Agency Consultation on Strengthening Partnerships for Effective Implementation of DevInfo. ([http://www.undg.org/documents/7037-Inter\\_Agency\\_Consultation\\_on\\_DevInfo\\_-\\_FINAL\\_REPORT\\_-\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.undg.org/documents/7037-Inter_Agency_Consultation_on_DevInfo_-_FINAL_REPORT_-_PDF.pdf))

<sup>15</sup> *Report of a Workshop on Tracking Health Performance and Humanitarian Outcomes*. IASC/WHO, Geneva, 1 - 2 December 2005.

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.iaahp.net/>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.rdfs.net/index.htm>

is being developed. This combined effort will be developed in the context of further assisting governments to realize the right to adequate food and to be free of hunger and malnutrition as expressed in the Voluntary Guidelines approved by the FAO Council, and by working through and strengthening the food and nutrition theme groups of the UN Country Teams.

26. The Task Force will develop a capacity building package for training UN country team food and nutrition theme group members on how to properly develop the food and nutrition components of the Common Country Assessments (CCA) and based on this how to develop the food and nutrition components of the UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAF). A training package will also be developed for the UN food and nutrition theme team to help them promote and train their national counterparts in strengthening the food and nutrition components of the PRSPs and national development strategies. Synergy with the development of the distance learning training package on Food Security and Nutrition Information currently underway in FAO, and support to related capacity-building initiatives will be actively pursued.

27. While the initial priority will be given to Sub-Saharan Africa, the Task Force will seek to progressively involve the re-aligned regional offices of the four UNDG executive group (WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP) in Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, so that regional technical advisers are actively involved in the development of both concepts and content of the packages being developed. Training of country teams to use the capacity-building packages would be carried out at the regional offices, as part of the progressive technical alignment of the programmes of the UN agencies involved in promoting food and nutrition programmes.

28. The Hunger Task Force Report<sup>18</sup> from the Millennium Project is a good starting point for some of the activities that need to be put in

<sup>18</sup> Hunger Task Force Report from Millennium Project [http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/reports/tf\\_hunger.htm](http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/reports/tf_hunger.htm)

place. The SCN Working Groups provided a much input to this report. Turning this proposal into reality is what one of the main aims of the Task Force should be, i.e. working on *how* to do it. The package will provide a logical programme framework for all UN related food and nutrition actions that are currently being promoted at the country level in an uncoordinated way. In addition to the Voluntary Guidelines on the Human Right to Adequate Food already mentioned, these include:

- ❑ the WHO Global Strategies for Infant and Young Child Feeding and on Diet, Physical Activity and Health
- ❑ Food Safety and Codex Alimentarius activities<sup>19</sup>
- ❑ the IUNS initiative for tackling severe malnutrition<sup>20</sup>
- ❑ the CBD cross-cutting initiative on Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition
- ❑ the GAIN (Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition) initiative,<sup>21</sup> to name but a few.

29. The food and nutrition policy framework developed through SCN Country Case Study Exercise<sup>22</sup> provides an initial framework for developing such a capacity building package, which importantly puts all of this in a life-cycle perspective, and further builds on the proposals developed by WHO in Europe.<sup>23</sup>

30. In the first instance the Task Force would work directly at the country level in the African and Latin American regions, with the countries involved in the four SCN country case study exercise (Mozambique, Angola, Brazil and Bolivia), the FAO Country Case Studies (Brazil, South Africa, Uganda and

<sup>19</sup> Codex Alimentarius

[http://www.codexalimentarius.net/web/index\\_en.jsp](http://www.codexalimentarius.net/web/index_en.jsp)

<sup>20</sup> IUNS Malnutrition Task Force.

[http://www.iuns.org/features/proposed\\_malnutrition\\_taskforce.pdf](http://www.iuns.org/features/proposed_malnutrition_taskforce.pdf)

<sup>21</sup> GAIN <http://www.gainhealth.org/gain/ch/EN-EN/index.cfm>

<sup>22</sup> SCN 2005 *The Country Case Study Exercise Report: Synthesis of Lessons Learnt*. Geneva: SCN Secretariat. [http://www.unsystem.org/scn/Publications/country\\_case\\_studies/FINAL%20SYNTHESIS.pdf](http://www.unsystem.org/scn/Publications/country_case_studies/FINAL%20SYNTHESIS.pdf)

<sup>23</sup> WHO 2004 *Food and Health in Europe: a New Basis for Action*. Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe.

India), as well as the Hunger Report follow up countries, developing initial ideas and the basis of the package. The Four Country Declaration signed by Brazil, Bolivia Angola and Mozambique at the closing of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session,<sup>24</sup> including the South-to-South collaboration that has already been initiated, provides a further suitable entry point and platform for building this set of activities.

31. The task force will also work through and together with the SCN Working Group on Capacity Development in Food and Nutrition together with UNU and IUNS, as well as with the Working Group on Nutrition, Ethics and Human Rights, and the Working Group on Household Food Security. In this way close collaboration with the academic institutions in Africa, Latin America, Europe and North America would be ensured.

32. In addition to these direct capacity building efforts, an indirect method of working through periodic regional meetings of groups of countries, such as ECOWAS, will also be developed. The 2006 ECOWAS periodic regional meeting for example will involve calling together government representatives for briefing them on the progress elsewhere of programmes aimed at improving food and nutrition situation, as well as asking them to report back on progress in strengthening the food and nutrition content of their PRSPs and promoting the use of the voluntary guidelines for realizing the right to adequate food.

### Identifying key scientific and operational gaps

33. This area of SCN action is best performed by the SCN Working Groups. It is one of their principal functions, and the Groups should be encouraged to prioritize their efforts in this area. This would be a continuous update that would feed into the work of the periodical *Reports on the World Nutrition Situation*. The SCN will also establish

closer links with the IUNS in order to strengthen the Working Groups. Working groups are expected to organize workshops at least once every two years and to produce SCN Policy Papers that will be published as supplements in the *Food and Nutrition Bulletin* of the UNU.

## BIENNIUM BUDGET 2006-2007

### Staffing

34. The *Action Plan* of the SCN described above will be carried out by an extended network of SCN members across the different constituencies of the SCN. The minimum staffing pattern considered necessary to support the expanded set of activities of the SCN by the Secretariat, in addition to the existing full time regular staff (D1 Secretary and G5 Personal Assistant) includes one P5 and two P4 positions. The P5 position is to head up the Advocacy, Communication and Partnership Building activities and funding should come from the Core Budget. One more administrative post would also be required at the G3 level and would also be funded from the Core Budget. One P4 will facilitate and follow-up the development of integrated approaches and the other P4 will facilitate and follow up the Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation activities. Both these posts would be funded from the programme budget, and these would be in addition to the existing project posts for the P3 *SCN News* Editor and P2 *NICS* Coordinator.

35. In order to fill posts rapidly with experienced staff, and to be able to move fast on developing and getting the *Action Plan* funded the various possibilities of secondment of staff from other UN agencies should be explored. The promotion of coordinated activities across agencies is in line with the priorities of the Chief Executives Board in the ongoing UN reform, which encourages secondment of staff across agencies to increase the overall integration of

<sup>24</sup> Joint Declaration.  
<http://www.unsystem.org/scn/Publications/AnnualMeeting/SCN32/FINAL%20REPORT%20SCN%2032.pdf>

the UN effort. Such *in kind* contributions might also be considered by Bilateral agencies.

### Core Budget 2006/7

36. The Steering Committee, at its January 2005 meeting, agreed in principle to the proposal that all the larger UN agencies should pay US\$100,000 and smaller agencies US\$30,000. The hosting costs would be considered as contribution from the UN agency hosting the Secretariat. While these figures had been proposed for the biennium 2004/5, it was also agreed that in principle for the biennium 2006/7 these amounts should become annual contributions. Letters to Heads of Agencies have been sent by the SCN Chair requesting this increased level of funding.

37. The various dimensions of these different funding scenarios are developed in Table 1, which shows two scenarios: firstly a no growth/low cost scenario based on funding remaining as it is, and secondly a scenario of expanded contributions to the core budget as requested to the UN agencies. The projected expenditures of the Secretariat are shown in Table 2, again with two scenarios: low cost/no growth and with the expanded set of activities as proposed in the *Action Plan* and the increased staffing pattern. An extra \$810,000 is necessary to fund the expanded core budget for 2006/7, and this would be provided by the expanded set of contributions. Otherwise these funds will need to be sought elsewhere.

TABLE 1: Contributions to the core budget

Agency	1998/99	2000/01	2002/03	2004/05 anticipated	2006/7	
					No growth	With proposed increases
UN	80,900	80,900	80,900	100,000	100,000	200,000
FAO	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	100,000	200,000
IAEA	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	30,000	60,000
IFAD	0	27,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	60,000
IFPRI	0	25,000	25,000	30,000	30,000	60,000
UNAIDS	0	30,000	0	0	0	60,000
UNDP	70,000	0	0	0	0	60,000
UNESCO	16,200	15,500	0	0	0	60,000
UNFPA	30,000	30,000	32,500	35,000	35,000	60,000
UNHCR	35,000	35,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	60,000
UNICEF	207,000	150,000	70,000	100,000	100,000	200,000
UNU	26,000	26,000	26,000	26,000	30,000	60,000
WFP	65,000	64,376	85,000	100,000	100,000	200,000
WHO *	25,000	25,000	25,000	40,000	60,000	120,000
World Bank	153,500	100,000	0	200,000	100,000	200,000
<i>Total per biennium</i>	<i>733,600</i>	<i>683,776</i>	<i>513,400</i>	<i>800,000</i>	<i>779,000</i>	<i>1,660,000</i>

\* WHO figures do not include the approximately US\$40,000 per year in-kind contribution for expenses incurred as the SCN's host agency

TABLE 2: Core budget Expenditures 2006/7

	No growth scenario	Least cost 2006/7 Expanded expenditures
Salaries and allowances	721,250	1,351,250
Consultants	0	0
Temporary assistance for the Secretariat	0	20,000
Travel:		
Secretariat to annual session, plus some additional travel of Secretary and P5	20,000	80,000
Dissemination of stored SCN publications: Clerical staff; mailing, storage and insurance	0	20,000
CDRom production, Website development, and maintenance	0	50,000
Communications and supplies:		
Phone, fax, courier, office supplies	20,000	20,000
Symposium (one/year):		
Travel of presenters and panelists	0	30,000
Editing, printing and distribution of Symposium Report	0	0
Dr Horwitz Lectures	10,000	10,000
Distinguished Nutrition Advocates	0	0
<i>Total</i>	<i>771,250</i>	<i>1,581,250</i>

### Proposed Programme Budget 2006/07

38. The proposed programme activities for the biennium 2006/7 are shown in Table 3. The activities are grouped by the three action areas, and include the extra staff that is needed to develop all of these activities, that are not covered in the Core Programme Budget. The sets of activities are listed as examples of that which could be carried out in the biennium. Some of these activities are illustrative of the sorts of activities envisaged

as being needed within the three components, while others for the ongoing activities such as SCN News are not just illustrative. All of these activities depend on raising the funds necessary to carry out this plan of action. Once the *Action Plan* is adopted, task forces created and funds mobilized then workplans would be further refined and finalized.

TABLE 3: Programme Activities Proposed for 2006/7

#### Advocacy Communication and Partnership Building

*Harmonization of communication concepts around hunger and malnutrition problems across the UN system, mobilization and partnership building*

Travel	50,000
Consultants	80,000
Workshops	120,000
Media costs	80,000
Sub-total	330,000
<i>Reporting on the World Nutrition Situation (6<sup>th</sup> Report)</i>	<i>250,000</i>
<i>SCN News (two issues/year)</i>	
Editor	258,000
Illustrator/graphics/copy editor	12,000

Travel	10,000
Communications/web	5,000
Printing and distribution	150,000
Sub-total	435,000

### Assessment Monitoring and Evaluation.

AME coordinator	
<i>Interagency Nutrition Initiative</i>	
Travel	80,000
Consultants	120,000
Workshops	120,000
Evaluations local costs (5 countries)	1,750,000
<i>Sub-Total</i>	<i>2,070,000</i>
<i>Nutrition information in crisis situations</i> (four issues/year)	
NICS Coordinator	95,000
Consultants/database	39,500
Travel	16,000
Communications/web	3,000
Printing and distribution	60,000
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>213,500</i>
<i>Development of monitoring indicators for global reporting on the realization of the right to adequate food</i>	<i>150,000</i>
<i>Support to countries to develop overarching M&amp;E frameworks for achievement of food and nutrition goals and the realization of the right to adequate food at national and municipal levels</i>	
Travel	80,000
Consultants	120,000
Workshops	220,000
Budget support to local in country costs (5 countries)	150,000
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>570,000</i>

### Development of Integrated Approaches

DIA coordinator	
<i>Regional meetings of UNCTs to train on how to develop food and nutrition components of CCA, UNDAFs</i>	
Travel	70,000
Consultants	70,000
Workshops	50,000
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>190,000</i>
<i>Support to UNCTs in countries to develop national food and nutrition plans, and packages of food and nutrition interventions, to accelerate achievement of MDGs</i>	
Travel	80,000
Consultants	120,000
Workshops	120,000
Budget support to local in country costs (5 countries)	500,000
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>820,000</i>
<i>Support to countries to develop communication and social mobilization packages for the realization of the right to adequate food and to be free from hunger and malnutrition at national and municipal levels</i>	
Travel	80,000
Consultants	120,000
Workshops	120,000
Budget support to local in country costs (5 countries)	150,000
<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>470,000</i>