

# REPORT OF Q1 2021 STATE COMMITTEE ON FOOD AND NUTRITION MEETING HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2021 AT THE NIGER STATE PLANNING COMMISSION'S CONFERENCE ROOM

## 1.0 Introduction

The quarterly SCFN meeting is a forum where members of the State Committee on Food and Nutrition present reports of activities conducted in the previous quarter, highlighted challenges face during implementation, lessons learned and discussed possible way forward.

The Q1 SCFN meeting was chaired by the Ramatu Umar Chairperson SCFN/Permanent Secretary Planning in attendance are the Permanent Secretaries of Education, Health, Finance, Information and Ministry for Local Government & Chieftaincy Affairs. Others in attendance include the Dir. Food and Drugs NSPHCDA, Dir. Budget NSPC, Dir. ECD NSPC, Dir. HPRS Min. of Health, Dir PRS Min. of Agric, Dir PRS Min of Education, Dir PRS Min of Water Resources and State Nutrition Officer. Also in attendance are the representatives of NOA, NAFDAC, FOMWAN, WOWICAN and CS-SUNN.

## 1.1 Objectives of the meeting

The objectives of the meeting include:

- i. To discuss nutrition interventions and progress of implementation in the State as well examine implementation constrains
- ii. To realign plans to meet strategic approach as outlined in State Nutrition Action Plan
- iii. To review findings of the Nutrition scorecard from implementing MDAs/ Agencies
- iv. To present 2021 State Nutrition costed Work Plan

## 1.2 Opening/Remarks

The meeting commenced at 10:05am with an opening prayer led by a volunteer and it was immediately followed by self-introduction for the purpose of familiarization. In her opening remark, the Chairperson SCFN/Permanent Secretary Planning, applauded the presence of all members of the SCFN at the meeting, especially the Permanent Secretaries of MDAs implementing Nutrition sensitive and specific activities, urging them to maintain the tempo for the purpose of actualizing the committee's goals and sustainability.

In addition, she stated that the Niger State Multisectoral Plan of Action on Food and Nutrition (NSMPAFN) has been produced and printed with support from CS-SUNN, and all is now set for full implementation of the NSMPAFN in the State. she added that the document will also serve as a guide to any Development Partner willing to support or fund

nutrition plans/policies in the State, as the State Government can't do it all alone. Furthermore, she highlighted the objectives of the meeting and expressed regret for the committee's inability to hold the Q4 SCFN meeting in due time, owing to the effect of COVID-19 and the meeting protocols. She then directed the SNO to give a status of nutrition

On the directive of the Chairperson, the State Nutrition officer (SNO) presented the nutrition status of the State. In her presentation the SNO stated that the stunting and wasting rate in the State is still 33.9% and 6.1% respectively while 16.2% of children are underweight according to 2018 NNHS as no survey is conducted recently.

She also stated that amongst other achievements recorded are the scaling up of CMAM Sites to 11 more LGAs, with a total of 4,158 children admitted and 3,400 children recovered and discharged so far, trained and oriented 188 nutrition workers on counseling, advocacy and sensitization during the MNCHW, procurement of RUTF for children as well as Iron/Folic acid and Vitamin A Supplementation for pregnant women, celebrated the World breastfeeding day with training on exclusive/appropriate breastfeeding etc.

The Chairperson thereafter urged participants to be steadfast in discharging their duties as members of the committee and contribute meaningfully towards the implementation of nutrition activities in the State in order to bring down to the barest minimum the effect of malnutrition on women and children in the State.

### **3.0 Review of Previous Meeting Report and Action Points**

The Director Economic Cooperation and Development (ECD) of Niger State Planning Commission reiterated the importance of the Niger State Multisectoral Plan of Action on Food and Nutrition Document (NSMPAFN), saying that the document is a strategic implementation action plan for the period of 5 years (2020-2025) and it require a well-coordinated sectoral approach from all Nutrition specific and sensitive MDAs in the State. He urged for more commitments by all Stakeholders for improved implementation and funding of the State nutrition policy and plans.

He thereafter, gave a recapped of the actionable points and resolutions from previous meeting.

On the same vain the Director Food and Drugs, opined that ANRiN and other Non-State actors in Nutrition are to be directed to use the NSMPAFN as their guiding document to support and fund Nutrition Policy and Plans in the State.



#### 4.0 Presentation of Q4 2020 Appraisal Tool

The Q4 scorecard was presented by the Dir ECD who stated that, the scorecard shows sectoral performance within a quarter and help to assess the extent to which the implementation of Nutrition specific and sensitive interventions is in-line with the State Multi-Sectoral Plan of Action for Food and Nutrition (NSMPAFN).

In addition, the SNO sought for improved commitment and financial support from members especially the Permanent Secretaries of Nutrition line MDAs.

In their separate responses the Permanent Secretaries assured the Committee of their readiness and commitment to support it activities times of need.

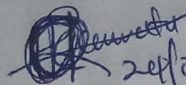
#### 5.0 Recommendations

Recommendations made at the meeting were as follows:

- Submission of 2021 Nutrition workplan, each sector deriving it strategies of implementation from the NSMPAFN document without deviating
- The appraisal tool document should be used to track performance of other MDAs
- Synergy among MDAs implementing Nutrition plans and policies should be strengthened for improved result.

#### 6.0 Closing

In her closing remarks, the chairperson appreciated members of the committee for their active participation at the meeting and urged them to maintained the tempo in the coming meetings. The meeting lasted for 3 hours 15 minutes and consequently close with a prayer offered by a volunteer.

  
24/08/2021

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**Chairperson**

  
24/08/2021

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**Secretary**

### Next steps

S/N	Action	Responsible Persons	Time Frame
1	MDA's Score card to be shared with the Permanent Secretaries in management before forwarding to SCFN secretariat	Focal Person	Continuous
2	MDA's 2021 Nutrition workplan to be submitted to SCFN secretariat	Focal Person	17 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021
3	Official Launching of NSMPAFN	SCFN	After Sallah
4	More support and commitment for Nutrition activities	Perm. Sec. of Line MDAs	Continuous
5	LCFN support-Min for Local Gov't to facilitate budgeting and release of fund for Nutrition activities	PS Min for LG	Continuous
6	Leveraging on funds from partners to finance Multisectoral Action Plan	All	
7	Nutrition plans and activities to be properly spelt out during budget screening	Perm. Sec. of Line MDAs	Continuous
8	Early Preparation of Memo and follow up for fund release	MDAs Nutr Focal Person	Continuous
9	Advocacy visit to School of Health Technology	SCFN Members	