

IIMSAM'S SG YEAR END STATEMENT FOR 2017

The *Autonomous* Intergovernmental Institution for the use of Micro-alga Against Malnutrition (IIMSAM) continues to push the boundaries beyond with an optimistic message that when we work together, our collective impact can achieve the changes needed to sustainably transform lives, communities, and the future. Eradicating malnutrition requires perseverance from all of us, and the report gives us our backbone and resolve.

It also ensures that we hold each other accountable and learn from each other's successes and failures. IIMSAM emphasizes the challenges posed by the multiple forms of malnutrition. It also signals the enormous importance of investing in the critical 1,000-day window so that every girl and boy can lead a happy, healthy, and productive life. Investing in nutrition is our collective legacy for a sustainable world in 2030.

IIMSAM urges the need for collective action to combat malnutrition's cascading impact on people, communities, and whole societies. The simple truth is we cannot secure sustainable development until we address the persistent food and nutrition challenges undermining opportunities for our planet's poorest and most vulnerable people.

Moving from theory, endless conference room rhetoric and beurocratic red tape to action requires giving specific action oriented with *concrete deeds* to those people left furthest behind, enduring persistent crisis and the effects of acute malnutrition.

IIMSAM commits to SMART action with concrete deeds as the primary way to achieve change for the people who need it most. Achieving good nutrition is about more than the food we eat, and it cannot be guaranteed by economic growth or even by poverty reduction.

193 World leaders fully committed to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals. More than half of these goals are related to nutrition; to meet them, we must reshape our food system and at times to think and act outside the box.

The challenges are immense. One-third of the world population is malnourished, while 30 percent of food is wasted. We have left behind smallholders, women, children and youth.

United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/154 The Right to Food ADOPTED ON THE 17 DECEMBER 2015:

*Considers it intolerable that, as estimated by the United Nations Children's Fund, more than one-third of the children who die every year before the age of **5** die from hunger related illness and that, as estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, about **795 million people** in the world remain undernourished due to the lack of sufficient food for conducting an active and healthy life, including as one of the effects derived from the global food crisis, while, according to the latter organization, the planet could produce enough food to feed everyone around the world>*

On the other hand, some countries have made rapid progress. So how do we extend and sustain such progress? A nutrition-driven global food system could be one of the answers.

The UN General Assembly declared on April 1, 2016, the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition for the period 2016–2025. The Decade of Action reaffirms the call to end all forms of malnutrition as anchored in the Rome Declaration and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development. It provides a unique avenue for a sustained global push on nutrition. IIMSAM is using Spirulina as a key pillar for enabling effective vehicle to combat malnutrition in support of the Decade of Action.

IIMSAM together with its strategic partners will continue to work to make Spirulina a household name and a vehicle in fighting the world's number one killer acute malnutrition by using a broadbased and getting the UN System *inter alia* to be more inclusive towards an outside the box approach by including Spirulina in their Food Security Agenda the very food supplement they once hailed at the UN-World Food Conference of 1974 as the “**best food for the future**”.

IIMSAM Making a Difference: by initiating through rigorous lobbying efforts at United Nations Headquarters in New York a revised draft resolution“ On the uses of Spirulina to combat Hunger and Malnutrition and help achieve sustainable development” during the 60th Session in 2005 of the UN-General Assembly-Second Committee Agenda Item 52, which was submitted by **Burundi, Cameroon, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua and Paraguay**. As a follow up of this draft resolution. The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) was requested to present a position paper on Spirulina. Which three years later resulted in: **FAO`S REPORT PRESENTED IN 2008 on the benefits of Spirulina for Human Consumption and recommended the following Selected ones:**

- ✱ There is a need for both national governments and inter-governmental organizations to re-evaluate the potential of Spirulina to fulfill both their own food security needs as well as a tool for their overseas development emergency response efforts.

- ✱ To improve technical and economic solutions to Spirulina production in environmentally impoverished conditions, as well as to prepare tested production packages for rapid deployment in emergency situations.

- ✱ Providing nutritional supplements for use in rural and urban communities where the diet is inadequate.

IIMSAM has been playing a proactive role in providing humanitarian aid and has been successful with its strategic partnerships around the world in the distribution of ***Spirulina Platensis*** to countless of peoples in need.

Since 2009 through the present thousands have benefitted from the IIMSAM Spirulina Food Fortifying Humanitarian Distribution Programme at its "***Sheikh Zayed***" Centre in Kisumu, Republic of Kenya.

I look forward to our realising these opportunities together. IIMSAM is proud of the accomplishments and ***concrete deeds*** that we have achieved thus far since 2009 under severe extreme circumstances and other challenges.

IIMSAM'S aims at promoting and securing the sustainability of our life saving programmes in support of the principles and ideals embodied in the Charter of the United Nations which IIMSAM as an Inter-Governmental Observer to the United Nations Economic and Social Council strives to uphold.

THANK YOU!