



To Health Ministers,

We, the undersigned, call on you on World Obesity Day, March 4th 2022, to lend your support and commitment to prevent, manage and treat obesity at the forthcoming World Health Assembly in May 2022.

The prevalence of obesity amongst adults and children continues to grow and has been exacerbated by COVID-19. The World Obesity Atlas 2022 projects that by 2030 there will be 1 billion adults living with obesity.

Children and adults across the globe need your leadership at this critical moment. Actions taken now will make a meaningful difference to our ability to turn the tide on obesity globally.

As a group of patients, health professionals, academics and civil society organisations, we welcome the recent adoption by the WHO's Executive Board of *Draft recommendations for the prevention and management of obesity over the life course*. **This is an extraordinarily important step in an integrated global response. Along with the proposed Acceleration Plan to pilot actions in 25 countries, these recommendations can serve as the starting point for a truly global, coordinated and effective response.**

For far too long we have all failed on obesity, and have witnessed generations of misunderstanding, fragmentation, underinvestment in and stigmatisation of obesity and those affected by it. As a result, the world is catastrophically off track to meet the WHO 2025 obesity targets to which you committed in 2013, jeopardising your ability to meet the other NCD, SDG and WHO 3 Billion targets.

We know we all do not want to stick to 'Business as usual'. We know we all want to find a way forward.

The good news is that you can.

Success on obesity can be achieved with the right approach, including with the development of a comprehensive Global Action Plan on obesity to bring together all the existing actions, including WHO's draft recommendations and wider work to accelerate action on obesity in priority countries, under one framework. Such a plan should cover prevention and treatment across the life course, be adaptable for different contexts, and put people at the centre.

We all have a role to play, and your leadership as Health Ministers is vital, more than ever, to ensure that effective action on obesity is taken. It is imperative that we seize the opportunity of the forthcoming World Health Assembly to demand strong, bold, integrated and comprehensive action on obesity, with people at the heart of actions. We have all worked hard to reach this point and the stakes are simply too high not to act.

As such, we call on you as WHO Member States to use the occasion of the World Health Assembly to:

1. Support the adoption of the Draft recommendations for the prevention and management of obesity over the life course and the proposed targets;
2. Request that WHO make obesity a strategic priority which is integrated across different pillars of work in a coordinated way;
3. Request that WHO leads the development of a comprehensive Global Action Plan on Obesity to underpin the implementation of the recommendations and associated WHO Acceleration Plan.

Such action will improve the health of your citizens and uphold the rights of those living with obesity and give them **the support and respect they deserve.**

Yours,

(Please refer to the back page for all signatures).

**TAKING
ACTION**





**World
Obesity
Day** 4 March
2022



Organisations

Adipositasforeningen

AdipositasHilfe Deutschland e.V.

Barifitness

Bangkok Association of

Regenerative Health and The Study
of Obesity

Desiderata Institute

Egyptian Medical Association for
the Study of Obesity

Euroobesitas

French Association for the study of
Obesity

Gasol Foundation

Global Obesity Patient Alliance

Health Coalition Aotearoa

Hong Kong Association for the
Study of Obesity

Hong Kong Obesity Society

Instituto Cordial

International Diabetes Federation

Japan Society for the Study of
Obesity

Lebanese Society for
Endocrinology, Diabetes and Lipids

Mexican Society of Obesity

Mongolian Association for the
Study of Obesity

NCD Alliance

Netherlands Association for the
Study of Obesity

NGO Obesidade Brasil

Obesity Action Coalition

Obesity and Metabolic Surgery

Society of India

Obesity Australia

Obesity in Haiti

Philippine Association for the

Study of Overweight & Obesity

Prevenindo e Tratando o Excesso
de Peso

Sociedad Argentina de Obesidad y
Trastornos Alimentarios

Taiwan Medical Association for the
Study of Obesity

Tanzania Diabetes Youth Alliance

The George Institute for Global
Health

The Obesity Society

The Obesity Society of Nigeria

Weight Issues Network

World Cancer Research Fund
International

Zambian Obesity Foundation

Individuals

Adam McCormack

Alice Kong

Allison Ibrahim

Alma Alejandra Moreno Becerril

Arya M. Sharma, MD, FRCP

Boyd Swinburn

Brenda Chitindi

Brett Kuo-Chin Huang

Carla Barberá Centro Amarú

Carlos Aurelio Schiavon

Caroline Apovian MD

Christian Madubueze

Consuelo Rivera T.

Cristina Saldias Porras

Dr. Kathy Shadle James DNSc FNP
FAAN

Dr. Orlando Pereira Faria

Dr. Saifullah Muzakir bin Yusop

Dr. Wong Kin Hung Simon

Dr. Ugochukwu Madubueze

Dra. Andrea Bermeo

Dra. Lucía Chávez Vega

Eghon Guzmán Monteneobles

Francisco Andrade Tamayo

González Alfaro Juan

Jira Thawornpradit

José Camolas

Joseph Proietto

Kingsley Chijioke Okeke

Lasztreg-Pataki Ágnes

Lucy Maria Padilla Torres

Luis Gonzalez Franco

Mohd Ismail Noor

Ng Li Whye

Prof. Karine Clément

Professor Carel le Roux

Professor Dr Milcho Bogoev

Professor Gary Wittert

Professor Louise A Baur

Robert F Kushner, MD

Rodrigo Valenzuela Gonzalez MD

Rodrigo Valenzuela Reyes

Sheree Queen Bryant

Takwe Boniface Njecko

Tanupol Virunhagarun, MD.

Vanessa Lizeth Montoya Roncancio

Wendy Reaser





**World
Obesity
Day** 4 March
2022

**EVERYBODY
NEEDS TO
ACT**



Individuals with organisations

Adipositaschirurgie Selbsthilfe Deutschland e.V.

Melanie Bahlke

Asociación Colombiana de Obesidad y Cirugía Bariátrica

Dr. Eduardo Silva B

Asociación Nacional para Personas Obesas y el Tratamiento de la Obesidad

Jesús Javier Díaz Rico

Australia and New Zealand Metabolic and Obesity Surgery Society

Prof. Jeffrey M Hamdorf

Australia New Zealand Obesity Society

Elaine Rush
Jane Martin

Austrian Society for Obesity and Metabolic Surgery

Philipp Beckerhinn

Azerbaijan Bariatric and Metabolic Surgery Associations

Taryel Omarov MD. PhD

Belgian Association for the Study of Obesity

Barea Marie

Bite Back 2030

James Toop

Brazilian Association for the Study of Obesity (ABESO)

Cintia Cercato

Centro Avanzado de Medicina Metabólica y Nutrición

Ada Cuevas
Veronica Alvarez
Rodrigo Alonso

Danish Association for the Study of Obesity

Lise Geisler Bjerregaard

Dasman Diabetes Institute

Dr. Ebaa Al-Ozairi

Galaz Obesidades MX

Fernando Perez

George Institute for Global Health

Prof. Kent Buse

Healthpoint Hospital

Mohammed Al Hadad

Hellenic Medical Association for Obesity

Efthymios Kapantais

Hungarian Society for the Study of Obesity

Dr. Eszter Halmy

Imperial College London Diabetes Centre

Sara Gaafar Ibauf Suliman

Irish Coalition for People Living with Obesity

Maura Murphy

International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders

Prof. Lilian Kow
Manuela Mazzarella

Indonesian Metabolic & Bariatric Society

Dr. Reno Rudiman

Italian Obesity Network

Giuseppe Fatati

Iraqi Society for Metabolic & Bariatric Surgery

Ramiz Mukhtar

Korean Society for the Study of Obesity

Kyoung-Kon Kim

Kuwait Red Crescent Society

Prof. Hilal Al-Sayer

Ligue contre l'obésité

Alina Constantin

Malaysian Association for the Study of Obesity

Geeta Appannah

Movendi International

Kristina Sperkova

National Institute of Public Health

Simon Barquera

New Life Center

Estuardo Behrens

Norwegian Association for the Study of Obesity

Jørn V. Sagen

Nutrimagen

Jorge Luis Rodríguez Gamarra

Obesidade Brasil

Roger Bongestab





**World
Obesity
Day** 4 March
2022

**EVERYBODY
NEEDS TO
ACT**



Individuals with organisations

Obesidades Mexico

Verónica Vázquez-Velázquez

Obesity Canada

Dawn Hatanaka
Ian Patton PhD
Dr. Mary Forhan

Obesity Medicine Association

Ethan Lazarus MD

Obesity Prevention and Control Society of Chinese nutrition Society

Youfa Wang

Obesity Reviews

David York

Oman Diabetes Association

Dr. Noor Al Busaidi

Obesity Policy Engagement Network Italy

Andrea Lenzi

Pennington Biomedical Research Center

John Kirwan

Portuguese Society for the Study of Obesity

José Silva-Nunes

RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences

Grace O'Malley

Romanian Association for the Study of Obesity

Laura Mihalache

RTI International

Rachel Nugent

Singapore Association for the Study of Obesity

Dr. Kwang-Wei Tham

Slovak Coalition of People with Obesity and Overweight

Hana Vrabcova

Soceidad Ecuatoriana de Cirugia Batriatica y metabolica

Daniel Guerron

Sociedad Chilena de Obesidad

Alex valenzuela

Society of Bariatric and Metabolic Surgeons of Kazakhstan

Prof. Oral Ospanov

Sociedad Dominicana de Cirugía Metabólica y Bariátrica

Dr. Ricardo Domingo

Sociedade Portuguesa de Cirurgia Obesidade

Jorge Nunes Santos MD PhD FACS

STOBklub

Iva Málková

Stowelink Inc.

Stephen Ogwen

Taiwan Medical Association for the Study of Obesity

Chiawen Lu

The Bulgarian Society of Bariatric/ Metabolic Surgery

Konstantin Grozdev

The European Coalition for People Living with Obesity

Susie Birney

The Technical University of Kenya

Dr. Alice Ojwang

UCD & St Vincents Hospital Group

Prof. Helen Heneghan

UK Association for the Study of Obesity

Dr. Maria Bryant

UMC Ljubljana and MF Ljubljana

Tadeja Pintar

United World Against Diabetes

Dr. Lalit Kumar Upadhyay

University of Cambridge

Tolu Oni

UZ Leuven

Matthias Lannoo

Wellness for Greatness Kenya

Amonje Moses Oluchiri

World Obesity Federation

John Wilding
Donna Ryan

Zambian Obesity Society

Nsamwa Chitindi

