

30 May 2018

Dear members of the committee,

**Consultation draft report noncommunicable disease and their risk factors**

Thank you for a clear and concise report.

Unfortunately EFAD's European Specialist Dietetic Network for Obesity believes some aspects received too little attention.

Firstly: the main cause of food related noncommunicable diseases lies in obesity. Obesity is the main cause of type 2 diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease, and cancer, sleep apnea and a certain percentage of pulmonary diseases, such as asthma and COPD. It would be greatly appreciated if this cause-effect relation was emphasized more in your report.

Secondly: the role of the large, multinational food industries in the prevalence of obesity is underestimated. They play a significant role in the rise of obesity figures world wide, and are, to our experience, not always inclined to change their policies to improve health for the population. Working with the industry should mean that they acknowledge that product reformulation, to bring down obesity figures world wide, is a necessary step.

Thirdly: the role of primary care, medical doctors and other health professionals, such as dietitians, is crucial to improve health for citizens world wide.

Yours faithfully,

Judith Liddell  
EFAD Executive Director

On behalf of members of  
EFAD's European Specialist Dietetic Network for Obesity:

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