

# INTERNATIONAL CODE OF MARKETING OF BMS





By the end of this session, you will :

- Understand the key concepts of the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes
- Know which other international and national guidance and policy documents are available
- Understand how to minimise the risk of artificial feeding
- Know how to report BMS Code Violations in Yemen





# **"THE CODE"**

International Health Policy Framework adopted by the World Health Assembly of the WHO in 1981

Aim: To protect and promote breastfeeding by regulating marketing practices of BMS producers.



**Breast Milk Substitute (BMS):** Any food being marketed or otherwise presented as a partial or total replacement for breast milk, whether or not suitable for that purpose.

#### Infant Formula

Other milk products Follow-on milks Vegetable Mixes Baby Teas & Juices Infant Cereals

The code also applies to feeding bottles and teats.

**Artificial Feeding:** where an infant or young child is fed with a BMS (*partial or exclusive*)

## The Code (Summary)





# **Advertising S**amples **Health Care Facilities Health Workers Supplies** Information Labels

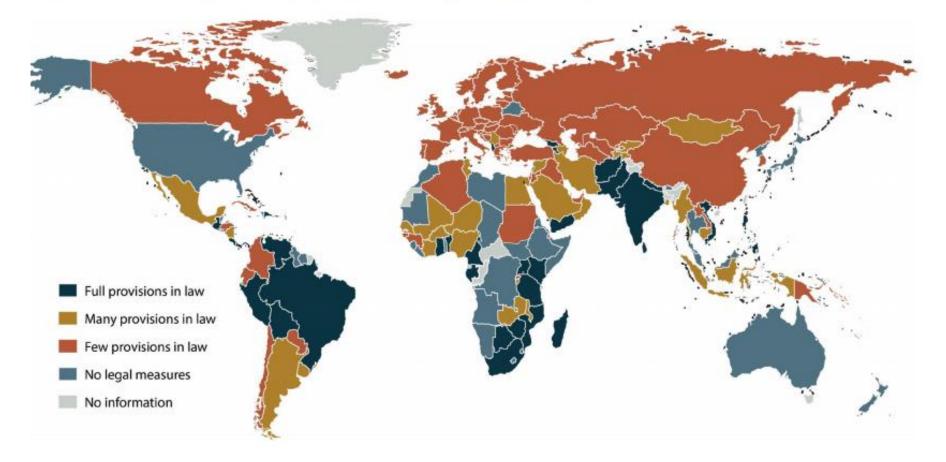
**Products** 

# National Implementation of the Code Status Report 2016



#### More countries have enacted Code legislation since 2011

An estimated 135 countries have some form of Code-related legal measures in place, an increase from 103 in 2011. However, only 39 countries have legislation incorporating all or most Code provisions.

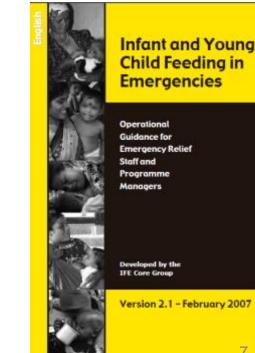


## Section 6: Minimise the Risks of Artificial Feeding

In emergencies, targeting and use, procurement, management and distribution of BMS, milk products, bottles and teats should be strictly controlled based on technical advice, and comply with the International Code and all

relevant WHA Resolutions.

- 6.1 Handling BMS donations and supplies
- 6.2 Establish and implement criteria for targeting and use
- 6.3 Control of procurement
- 6.4 Control of management and distribution



## **Minimise the Risk of Artificial Feeding**

#### Cup Feeding Guide for Health Workers

IMPORTANT NOTE: Breastfeeding nourishes, protects and saves infants lives, especially in emergencies. Breastfeeding is the safest way to feed your baby. Mothers can increase their milk supply and <u>relactate</u> (start breastfeeding again) by lots of skin to skin contact and breastfeeding more frequently

If the baby cannot be breastfed at any time:

DO NOT use a feeding bottle or teat. They can cause ILLNESS, MALNUTRITION AND THE DEATH OF THE INFANT because they cannot be cleaned properly.

DO USE AN OPEN CUP (NOT with a spout)

#### How to cup feed

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## You are setting up BMS services in a refugee camp. Place your order with your procurement officer:

1) What BMS specifications do you need?

2) What additional supplies do you need besides BMS?

Discuss in pairs for 5 minutes



## 6.4 Control of management and distribution

#### **CAMP (Prescription)**



#### COMMUNITY (Door to Door)



**IYCF Standard 1: Policy guidance and coordination:** Safe and appropriate infant and young child feeding for the population is protected through implementation of key policy guidance and strong coordination.

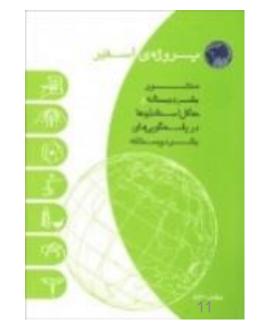
**IYCF Standard 2: Basic ad Skilled Support:** Mothers and caregivers of infants have access to timely and appropriate feeding support that minimises risks and optimises nutrition, health, and survival outcomes.

#### **Key Actions**

Enable access for mothers and caregivers whose infants require artificial feeding to an adequate amount of an appropriate BMS and associated support.

#### **Key Indicators**

There is access to Code-compliant supplies of appropriate BMS and associated support for infants who require artificial feeding.



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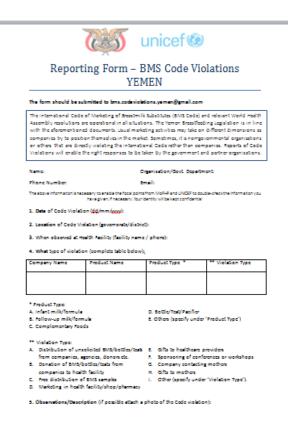
Response



- Breastfeeding Legislation 2002 (Prime Minister Decree N18 on Breastfeeding Promotion and Protection)
- Manual for Health Workers to Implement the National Legislations for Encouraging and Protecting Breastfeeding
- National Reporting Format Code Violations (updated version)

## **Reporting Code Violations in Yemen**





## Who can report Code Violations?

 EVERYONE!!! (health workers, INGO/NGO staff, government staff etc.)

## Email Code Violations to:

bms.codeviolations.yemen@gmail.com

# **Example Code Violation**



• Why is this a violation of the code?

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- Awareness raising on existing Legislation, Guidance, and Reporting Form (the more people are aware and know how to report the better!)
- Roll-out training on Guidelines to Health Facility staff (all levels of staff)
- Report BMS Code Violations
- Take appropriate actions
- Revise and update Breastfeeding Legislation → increase fines (when possible/post-conflict)
- Increase human resources to monitor and action code violations.

## **Read More**



 IFE Operational Guidance on Infant Feeding in Emergencies <u>http://www.ennonline.net/ourwork/guidance/opgu</u>

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- International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN) <u>www.ibfan.org</u>
- Baby Milk Action (IBFAN UK)
  <u>www.babymilkaction.org</u>
- IYCF-E Toolkit (BMS Calculation Tool) <u>https://sites.google.com/site/stcehn/documents/i</u> <u>ycf-e-toolkit</u>



Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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