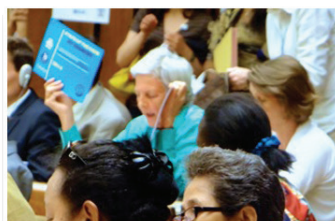


Decision on Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition

The IBFAN team attended WHA for the first time under its own name as the network had been accepted into Official Relations with WHO in January 2014. IBFAN had well prepared and called for changes in the Decision on Maternal infant and Young Child Nutrition. (Agenda item 13.2) Several governments picked up on those changes and the Assembly adopted the Decision as amended. Under WHO's Statutes, a Decision has the same legal force as a resolution. *(final text of the Decision as adopted by Committee A.)*

Annelies read out *IBFAN's statement* under this agenda item. She took advantage of the Assembly's attention to announce the new publications by ICDC - Breaking the Rules, 2014 and State of the Code by Country 2014, waving the red and the blue copies.

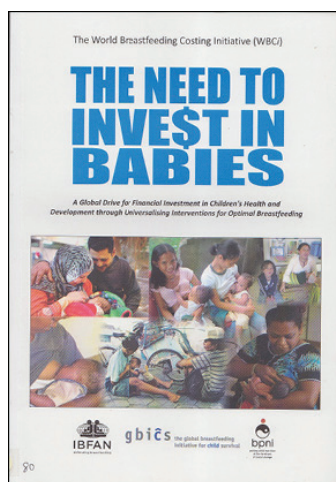
Other WHA agenda items



IBFAN also advocated for improved wording in the Action Plan on Newborn Health. This was more problematic as other delegations also wanted to open up the Action Plan and weaken it. After much heated debate, and at the end of a late night session, the draft resolution was approved with some important changes in the text. Joyce Chanetsa gave the IBFAN Statement.

WHO's Draft Framework on Engagement with Non State Actors (NSAs). As IBFAN we called for a fundamental rethink of this paper and provided Member States (MS) with briefings including the correspondence in the British Medical Journal. Several delegations spoke out strongly on this issue, adamant that the draft should not go through as it was. The final decision adopted on the late, last evening (24th May) recognised that further consultations, discussions and regional meetings were needed "on issues including conflict of interest and relations with the private sector."

Side meetings at WHA



There was an unprecedented number of daily side meetings at lunch time, after the end of Committee meetings and in the evenings leading to competition for attendance. They were all on special issues, such as preparation for the special Nutrition Conference late 2014, panels on NCD challenges, potential convention on healthier diets, etc. Two were of particular interest to IBFAN: One by Helen Keller International on Complementary Foods; and the other one, our very own: the launch of the IBFAN's World Breastfeeding Costing initiative. For both of these the room was packed.

The WBCi World Breastfeeding Costing initiative was launched at the World Health Assembly on 21 May 2014. One of its conclusions is that an annual investment of US\$17.5 billion is needed to create an enabling environment for breastfeeding globally. This includes one-time costs like developing legislation and basic training in skilled counselling, and recurring costs like monitoring violations of the International Code, coordination, maternity benefits, data management, research, reviews and updating of policies and legislation.

"The UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Olivier de Schutter, spoke about the International Code at the Debate on Recommendations towards a Convention to protect and promote healthy diets. Annelies caught up with him and they discussed intricacies of Code implementation."

