

THIS LETTER WILL BE SENT TO THE CEOs of 6 COMPANIES: NESTLE, DANONE, ABBOTT, RB/MEAD JOHNSON, FRIESLAND CAMPINA, and KRAFT HEINZ.

July 13, 2018

Miles D. White  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Abbott Laboratories  
100 Abbott Park Road  
Abbott Park, Illinois, United States  
60064-3500

Emmanuel Faber  
Chief Executive Officer, Danone SA  
15, rue du Helder  
75009 Paris, France

Hein Schumacher  
Chief Executive Officer, FrieslandCampina  
P.O. Box 1551  
3800 LE Amersfoort, Netherlands

Bernardo Hees  
Chief Executive Officer, KraftHeinz  
200 E Randolph St Fl 75,  
Chicago, IL, United States  
60601

Ulf Mark Schneider  
Chief Executive Officer, Nestle  
Avenue Nestlé 55  
Vevey, Canton of Vaud 1800  
Switzerland

Rakesh Kapoor  
Chief Executive Officer, Reckitt Benckiser Group plc  
103 - 105 Bath Road  
Slough, Berkshire, SL1 3UH

Dear Miles D. White, Emmanuel Faber, Hein Schumacher, Bernardo Hees, Ulf Mark Schneider and Rakesh Kapoor,

As organizations committed to improving the health and nutrition of women and children throughout the world and protecting the public interest, we are writing to call on your companies to fully comply with the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes and subsequent resolutions (the Code). In light of the recent media reports of the United States Administration's attempts to undermine the infant and young child feeding resolution at the World Health Assembly and the ensuing public outcry, we have become even more concerned about the infant formula industry's practices and the continued unethical and irresponsible marketing of breast milk substitutes.

Your companies consistently fail to comply with the Code, which was adopted by the World Health Organization during its 1981 World Health Assembly—the highest health policy setting body in the world. As you know, the Code applies to *all* countries in the world, and works to protect *all* children from birth up to 36 months. As shown by the recent Access to Nutrition Index report, your companies’ marketing of infant formula and other breastmilk substitutes continues to violate both the letter and spirit of the Code which exists to protect breastfeeding—a practice vital to the health and survival of mothers and children across the globe.

Specifically, we ask that each of your companies: (1) Publicly commit to upholding the Code and its subsequent resolutions and recognize that the Code applies to all countries; and (2) Immediately cease from lobbying or using other means to undermine global efforts to protect breastfeeding and countries’ efforts to enact, implement, monitor or enforce national Code legislation and regulations.

We stand ready to mobilize our supporters to join us in urging you to commit to full compliance with the Code and to desist from lobbying to undermine the protection of breastfeeding which has the potential to save over 800,000 lives of young children every year. Each of you is in a position to lead the industry in making big strides towards Code compliance by taking the steps that we have outlined above. With this letter, we invite you to reply with a plan for addressing your companies’ longstanding failure to comply with the Code. Please direct your responses to Lucy M. Sullivan, Executive Director of 1,000 Days.

Sincerely,

1,000 Days  
Alive & Thrive  
American Academy of Nursing  
American Breastfeeding Institute  
Bread for the World  
Bright Future Lactation Resource Center  
Child Health Advocacy Initiative  
Clean Label Project  
Concern Worldwide  
FHI 360  
Global Health Advocates  
Helen Keller International  
National WIC Association  
Public Citizen  
RESULTS  
Save the Children UK  
University of Connecticut Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity  
Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America