

Decision from CARICOM COHSOD COTED (Ministers of Health and Ministers of Trade) meeting on NCDs on 29th April 2022

Having considered agenda Item 6, Removing Industrially Produced Trans Fatty Acids (IP-TFAs) by the Elimination of Partially Hydrogenated Oils (PHOs) from the Regional Food Supply;

Recognizing that PHOs have been classified as harmful to health;

Noting the position of Belize and Trinidad and Tobago that they cannot agree to the December 31st 2023 deadline and that more time is needed to consult with relevant stakeholders;

The Sixth Joint COTED/COHSOD:

- **Agreed** to work towards the prohibition of production, importation, distribution, sale and use of PHOs in oils, fats, and foods for human consumption in CARICOM Member States.
- **Committed** to developing a policy position and to work towards regulations and legislation for prohibition of PHOs to be in place by 31 December 2023 but no later than December 2024.
- **Mandated** the Inter-Governmental Working Group on Unhealthy Diets and Obesogenic Food Environments, with support from the WHO/PAHO and other collaborating partners/countries, to support Member States in their respective plans to effectively eliminate PHOs from the Region's food supply by 31 December 2025.