
Mourning the loss of two WABA breastfeeding stalwarts

Hussein Hassan Tattue Tarimo



22 August 1952 - 28 September 2021

The World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) is truly sad to announce the passing

away of our dear friend and ardent breastfeeding advocate, Hussein Hassan Tattue Tarimo, a trailblazer in coordinating effective implementation of the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes. He passed away at his home in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on 28 September 2021.

Having first joined WABA as a member of the Steering Council in 2013, he fought diligently to protect breastfeeding rights in Botswana and all over Africa. Ever so passionate, Tarimo dedicated his work towards protecting breastfeeding and challenged individuals, manufacturers and even governments that violated the Code.

Tarimo worked in Tanzania for 17 years as a food scientist for a number of government institutions before migrating to Botswana in 1992 where he worked under the Ministry of Health. His work also involved breastfeeding promotion and policy development. He regularly participated in the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses that developed and reviewed international standards for special dietary uses, including those of baby foods. Mr Tarimo also undertook short term food safety consultancy work with FAO and ITC (International Trade Center) for a number of projects in Africa.

He was a member of the African Expert Group on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses and a Coordinator of the IBFAN Africa Codex Group that provided technical inputs on Africa's position in a number of Codex meetings.

After retirement, he remained a key member of IBFAN Africa and greatly contributed to WABA. He frequently raised Code issues, highlighted violations and conflicts of interest.

His passing comes as a great loss to activists and advocates worldwide. WABA sends its deepest condolences to Tarimo's family and friends. He will be dearly missed.

WABA Secretariat and Steering Council

Kamla Bhasin



1946 - 25 September 2021

Another breastfeeding stalwart, Kamla Bhasin, a Women's rights activist who worked tirelessly for 35 years with issues related to development, education, gender, media and several others passed away on 25 September 2021. She served on WABA's International Advisory Council as a member for 6 years from 2006.

Born in 1946 in Rajasthan India, she received her B.A. at Maharani's College in Jaipur and an MA in Economics at the Rajasthan University. She also studied Sociology of Development at Muenster University in West Germany. From April 1979 to 2001, Bhasin worked with FAO, New Delhi, to carry out an FAO-NGO South Asian Programme which works with and gives support to NGO's, people's organisations, women's groups and poverty-oriented government programmes. Prior to that, Bhasin was a lecturer in the Orientation Centre of the German Foundation for Developing Countries in Bad Honnef, West Germany, and also Development Secretary of Seva Mandir, an NGO working with the poorer segments of the population in Rajasthan, India. She is best known for her work with Sangat, a Feminist Network of which she is a founder member and Adviser.

Bhasin's work has involved close collaboration with the UN, government and bilateral agencies, media, researchers, academics and others. As part of this work, she has travelled extensively in Asia, especially in the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Our condolences to her family. She will be dearly missed by all.