

Glossary

- 1. Malnutrition:** Malnutrition or malnourishment is a condition that results from eating a diet in which nutrients are either not enough or are too much such that the diet causes health problems.
- 2. Vicissitudes:** A change or variation occurring in the course of something.
- 3. Aliphatic hydrocarbons:** An aliphatic compound is a hydrocarbon compound containing carbon and hydrogen joined together in straight chains, branched trains or non-aromatic rings.
- 4. Alkanes:** Alkanes consist only of hydrogen and carbon atoms and all bonds are single bonds.
- 5. Unsaturated hydrocarbons:** Unsaturated hydrocarbons have double or even triple bonds between the carbon atoms. This makes unsaturated hydrocarbons even more reactive than saturated hydrocarbons, as well as have fewer hydrogen atoms bonded to the carbon atoms than saturated hydrocarbons have.
- 6. Proteins:** Any of various naturally occurring extremely complex substances that consist of amino-acid residues joined by peptide bonds, contain the elements carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen, usually sulfur, and occasionally other elements (as phosphorus or iron), and include many essential biological compounds (as enzymes, hormones, or antibodies).
- 7. Catalysis:** Catalysis is the increase in the rate of a chemical reaction due to the participation of an additional substance called a catalyst.
- 8. Carcinogens:** A carcinogen is any substance that has the potential to cause cancer in living tissues. Carcinogen exposure can occur from the inhalation, ingestion, or absorption of many different types of substances into our bodies. Carcinogens act on our DNA, causing dangerous changes at the cellular level.
- 9. Organoleptic qualities:** Organoleptic properties are the aspects of food, water or other substances that an individual experiences via the senses—including taste, sight, smell, and touch.
- 10. Mutagenesis:** Mutagenesis is a process by which the genetic information of an organism is changed in a stable manner, resulting in a mutation. It may occur spontaneously in nature, or as a result of exposure to mutagens.

- 11. Wild types:** Wild type (WT) refers to the phenotype of the typical form of a species as it occurs in nature. Originally, the wild type was conceptualized as a product of the standard.
- 12. Generation time:** The generation time is the average time between two consecutive generations in the lineages of a population.
- 13. Biomass:** Biomass is organic matter derived from living, or recently living organisms.
- 14. Molasses:** Molasses or black treacle is a viscous by-product of the refining of sugarcane or sugar beets into sugar.
- 15. Heterotrophs:** An organism that cannot synthesize its own food and is dependent upon complex organic substances for nutrition.