Contents

Trustees’ report
Legal information 4
Welcome letter 5
Aims and objectives 6
COVID-19 7
Year in numbers 8
Membership 10

Leading Global Advocacy For Obesity
Global policy development and advocacy 12
Global advocacy events 13
Knowledge sharing and cooperation 14
Youth advocacy support 15
World Obesity Day 16

Convening Obesity Stakeholders Globally
Global Obesity Forum 18
Advancing policy research 19
Stock Conference 19
Health and Climate Network 20
Weight Stigma & Bias Working Group 20
Members’ communications 21

Training And Building Capacity In Obesity
Clinical education (SCOPE) 22
Gulf and Lebanon Recommendations 24

Collecting And Disseminating Knowledge On Obesity
Journals 26
Global Obesity Observatory 28
Economic Impact of Obesity 29

Concluding Remarks
Looking ahead to 2022 30

Structure, governance and management
Charitable objectives of World Obesity 32
Public benefit 32
Structure, governance and management 32
Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of the World Obesity Federation 37

Financial statements
World Obesity Federation Statement Of Financial Activities Charity 41
World Obesity Federation Balance Sheet 42
World Obesity Federation Cash Flow Statement 43
Trustees’ report

Legal and administrative information for the year ended 31 December 2021

Trustees

Professor Louise Baur (President-Elect) – appointed 7 July 2020
Professor Donna Ryan (Past President) – appointed 3 May 2016
Professor Caroline Apovian (Treasurer) – appointed 7 July 2020
Professor Karine Clement – appointed 3 May 2016
Professor Terry Huang – term ended 1 December 2021
Professor Alafia Samuels – appointed 6 November 2019
Professor Brian Oldfield – appointed 23 May 2018
Professor Joseph Proietto – appointed 3 May 2016
Professor Nathalie Farpour-Lambert – term ended 1 July 2021
Professor David York – appointed 3 May 2016
Mr Adam McCormack – appointed 16 September 2020
Professor Bruno Halpern – appointed 1 January 2021
Professor Jason Halford – appointed 1 July 2021
Professor Cathy Kotz – appointed 1 December 2021

Chair
Professor John Wilding (President) – appointed 23 May 2018

Secretary
Mrs Johanna Ralston – appointed 14 August 2017

CEO
Mrs Johanna Ralston

Company Registered Number
03802726

Charity Registered Number
1076981

Auditors
Xeinadin Auditing
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors, Beckett House
36 Old Jewry, London EC2R 8DD

Principal Office Address
Ludgate House, Suite 410, 107-111 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2AB

Principal Banker
HSBC Bank
156-157 Tottenham Court Road
London W1P 9LJ

Solicitors
Penningtons Solicitors LLP
Da Vinci House, Basing View
Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 4EQ

The trustees have prepared this report and financial statements in accordance with the UK Companies Act 2006, the UK Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102).
Welcome letter

Dear friends,

On behalf of the World Obesity Federation, we are pleased to present our annual report for 2021.

It has been yet another year of great impact amidst continued uncertainty. And while we are all ready for rest, renewal, and a return to in-person activities, we can celebrate how far we have come during the pandemic and share hopes for greater health, stability, and progress in the year ahead.

As uncertainty became the new normal in 2021, the obesity community rallied around increased recognition that obesity was a major factor contributing to complications and deaths due to COVID-19, even if the exact mechanisms remained unclear. On World Obesity Day 2021, we saw the greatest focus ever by the media, policymakers and the public on obesity and its association with the virus. This led to policy announcements, a step change in media coverage, an 812% increase in page views on our data website, and the launch of the Global Obesity Coalition with World Obesity Federation, World Health Organization (WHO), and UNICEF, including a hybrid event in New York at the time of the UN General Assembly.

Our work in education continued to grow, with double the number of SCOPE certifications than 2019 and 8,806 new users. We oversaw the successful virtual delivery of four SCOPE schools focused on diabetes, CVD, surgery and mental health, and new modules focused on CVD and treatment.

Collaboration remains at the heart of our work. New members joined us from countries ranging from Mexico to China. We launched an organisation-wide working group to write a global position paper on weight stigma, exploring its impact and the ways in which perceptions of weight vary by country and culture. Our work with youth continued, including the expansion of the Healthy Voices website. The launch of the economic impact of obesity methodology was another critical moment, providing common metrics and elevating the sense of urgency surrounding obesity action.

In relation to policy, we worked closely with WHO to support the development of obesity recommendations and an accelerated action plan to be adopted at the World Health Assembly in May 2022, which many of you helped shape and support. As we know, countries are catastrophically off track to meet WHO targets to halt the rise in obesity by 2025, and a much stronger response is needed. Thanks to your successful advocacy at country and regional levels, combined with a great partnership with WHO in Geneva and growing recognition of the urgency of the issue following COVID-19, we are finally anticipating global agreements and action plans on the prevention and management of obesity in low-, middle- and high-income countries.

The next step will be coordinated national action. Your partnership is needed more than ever to bring obesity the necessary attention and resources, and to ensure that the projected 1 billion adults and children living with obesity have longer, healthier, happier lives.

We look forward to sharing our plans for next steps across the organisation, including at the International Congress on Obesity in Melbourne in October.

Thanks to our fellow Board members, World Obesity volunteers and members, and the staff of World Obesity.

Yours Sincerely,

John Wilding, President

Johanna Ralston, CEO
Aims and objectives

Legal status of the World Obesity Federation

The World Obesity Federation (hereinafter World Obesity) was incorporated in the United Kingdom on 8 July 1999 and is a private company limited by guarantee (company registration number 03802726). World Obesity is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association, as updated most recently on 3 May 2016. World Obesity is a registered charity (charity number 1076981) and is not empowered to make financial distributions to its members.

Strategic goals

In line with its professional membership and charitable status, World Obesity aims to lead and drive global efforts to reduce, prevent and treat obesity. World Obesity’s vision is to create and lead a global community of organisations dedicated to solving the problems of obesity.

The strategic goals of World Obesity are:

• Lead global advocacy for obesity
• Convene stakeholders globally
• Train and build capacity in obesity
• Collect and disseminate knowledge on obesity

Activities and achievements

A wide range of activities are undertaken to support the strategic goals, including:

• Membership
• Global policy development and advocacy
• Global advocacy events
• Knowledge sharing and cooperation
• Youth advocacy support
• World Obesity Day
• Global Obesity Forum
• Advancing policy research
• Stock Conference
• Health and Climate Network
• Weight Stigma & Bias Working Group
• Members’ communications
• Clinical education (SCOPE)
• Gulf and Lebanon Recommendations
• Journals
• Global Obesity Observatory
• Economic Impact of Obesity

Further details on each of these activity areas are provided in the following chapters of this report. They have been grouped under World Obesity’s four strategic goals; however, several initiatives serve more than one goal, with wide-ranging outcomes and impacts.
COVID-19

COVID-19 continued to be a disruptive factor in 2021, with lockdowns and restrictions in place across the globe. But while the pandemic presented major challenges throughout the year, we were able to respond and create new opportunities in the process.

At an operational level, World Obesity built on the lessons of 2020 to adapt and refine how we worked. New software and solutions helped facilitate remote working for the entire World Obesity staff, and we developed effective new templates and solutions for virtual events and education. Online engagement was high through 2021, helping us reach wider audiences for events such as World Obesity Day (our most successful campaign yet). We also introduced hybrid events such as the Global Obesity Forum in September, which saw good attendance both online and in person.

In March 2021, our COVID-19 and Obesity Atlas report underscored the worrying links between higher body weights and poor COVID-19 infection outcomes. Releasing the report on World Obesity Day helped us to generate unprecedented media interest and bring the issue to public attention. Throughout 2021 and beyond, we have used this new visibility to advocate strongly for far-reaching action on obesity prevention and treatment, and are beginning to see the results.
Year in numbers

8 New Members
63 Full Members
84 Total Members
3 Regional Organisation Members
10 Associate Members

4 Virtual SCOPE Schools Delivered
8,000+ New SCOPE Users
523 SCOPE Certifications, double the number from 2019
Over 150 Stakeholders from 40+ countries convened with WHO to mobilise efforts towards a global response to COVID-19.

36 Journal Issues Released in 2021

3 New Dossiers on physical activity, food systems and weight stigma, receiving 37,000 views

1 Global Obesity Forum with representation from 36 countries

1 Global Obesity Coalition launched with WHO and UNICEF

812% more Global Obesity Observatory page views

8 Pilot Countries for Economic Impact of Obesity Study with over 150 countries to be added in 2022

12 Gulf & Lebanon Regional Priorities and Recommendations Launched
Membership

As a global federation, members are vital to the work and reputation of World Obesity. Indeed, our international authority is reliant upon the incorporation of new members from new parts of the world, as well as the support of existing members.

Members, in turn, benefit from our global network and expertise, with opportunities to sit on committees, attend special events, and enjoy discounted access to events, educational courses, and World Obesity journals.

We welcomed eight new members in 2021: Obesidades, Mexico; Global Obesity Patient Alliance (GOPA); International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders (IFSO); Collective for Action on Obesity, Australia; Obesity Prevention and Control Society, China; Obesity Medicine Association, USA; Obesidade Brasil, Brazil and Gasol Foundation, Spain.

The steady growth of our member base is thanks, in part, to the expansion of the membership grades to include an Associate grade, implemented in 2019. The changes mean that non-profit organisations working in related NCD conditions, but with a substantive interest in obesity, may now apply to become members. Of the eight organisations that successfully applied for membership this year, five were approved at the Associate grade. Associate members do not vote in the World Obesity AGM.

There are currently 76 World Obesity members. The vast majority (63) are Full Members with voting rights, with another 10 organisations holding Associate membership. There are three regional organisations – the Asia Oceania Association for the Study of Obesity (AOASO), the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO), and the Latin American Federation of Obesity Societies (FLASO) – with affiliation to World Obesity.

As our membership continues to rise, so will our ability to bring about meaningful change through collaboration, knowledge sharing, and collective calls to action.

As a global federation, members are vital to the work and reputation of World Obesity. Indeed, our international authority is reliant upon the incorporation of new members from new parts of the world, as well as the support of existing members.

Members, in turn, benefit from our global network and expertise, with opportunities to sit on committees, attend special events, and enjoy discounted access to events, educational courses, and World Obesity journals.

We welcomed eight new members in 2021: Obesidades, Mexico; Global Obesity Patient Alliance (GOPA); International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders (IFSO); Collective for Action on Obesity, Australia; Obesity Prevention and Control Society, China; Obesity Medicine Association, USA; Obesidade Brasil, Brazil and Gasol Foundation, Spain.

The steady growth of our member base is thanks, in part, to the expansion of the membership grades to include an Associate grade, implemented in 2019. The changes mean that non-profit organisations working in related NCD conditions, but with a substantive interest in obesity, may now apply to become members. Of the eight organisations that successfully applied for membership this year, five were approved at the Associate grade. Associate members do not vote in the World Obesity AGM.

There are currently 76 World Obesity members. The vast majority (63) are Full Members with voting rights, with another 10 organisations holding Associate membership. There are three regional organisations – the Asia Oceania Association for the Study of Obesity (AOASO), the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO), and the Latin American Federation of Obesity Societies (FLASO) – with affiliation to World Obesity.

As our membership continues to rise, so will our ability to bring about meaningful change through collaboration, knowledge sharing, and collective calls to action.
### Member benefits

World Obesity’s member organisations and affiliations are entitled to a range of benefits, including:

- Discounted registration fees to World Obesity events and the International Congress on Obesity (ICO)
- Discounted subscription rates on the World Obesity journals
- World Obesity’s International Awards for Scientific Excellence
- SCOPE Schools access and regional input
- Invitation to attend our Annual General Meeting (Associate members in a non-voting capacity)
- Access to international policies, project updates and statistics on obesity via the Global Obesity Observatory
- 50% discount on paywalled SCOPE E-Learning courses
- 25% discount on the SCOPE Accreditation fee for members
- Members e-newsletters and webinars
- 20% discount on Wiley publications
- 15% discount on medical books from Wisepress.com
- Invitation to bid for holding regional and international World Obesity Conferences
- Opportunities for global networking with experts in the field of obesity
- Access to and participation in various webinars, roundtables and online events throughout the year

---

**Gasol Foundation, Spain**

We at the Gasol Foundation understand that obesity is a complex issue that affects children and adults all around the world, especially those living in underserved communities. This is why we partner with a wide range of stakeholders. We have been working closely with the Spanish government to develop the first National Strategic Plan For The Reduction Of Childhood Obesity, and we consider that becoming a member of the World Obesity Federation is key to learn best practices, to develop connections and relationships that enhance our mission, and to share our experience with other members.

We lead the Spanish national effort to reduce childhood obesity and contribute globally to scientific evidence based on the research and knowledge we are generating in Spain. At the same time, we can both learn from other experiences and be nourished by the scientific work carried out in other countries. Also, we bring World Obesity’s advocacy and awareness initiatives to Spain, to contribute to worldwide efforts.

Cristina Ribes, Executive Director Europe, Gasol Foundation, Spain

---

**Membership has helped us create a virtual network with health professionals and associations globally, to access educational material, and to participate in new protocols and demands to improve obesity treatment. It has been essential for the NGO Obesidade Brasil.”**

Dr Andrea Pereira, Coordinator and co-founder of NGO Obesidade Brasil
LEADING GLOBAL ADVOCACY FOR OBESITY

2021 has been a pivotal year, bringing obesity to the forefront of global health and the political stage.

World Obesity’s high-profile public health policy and advocacy work has helped drive forward the global obesity agenda, as the link between obesity and COVID-19 complications increased pressure to act. This year, we maintained our focus on World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations (UN) targets, in line with our strategic plan, and saw concrete actions including the development of recommendations on obesity. We collaborated with members and organisations to organise advocacy events and share knowledge, and we continue to be a global Consortium partner in two major European projects, CO-CREATE and STOP. World Obesity Day 2021 was our most successful campaign yet, bringing obesity into the public eye.

Global policy development and advocacy

World Obesity’s advocacy priorities are the recognition of obesity as both risk factor and disease, and the need to prioritise obesity within health systems and food systems. Childhood obesity is an ongoing priority area, on which we work closely with WHO, UNICEF and youth.

We continue to work closely with UN institutions, including WHO and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Most notable in 2021 was the launch of the Global Obesity Coalition, a partnership between WHO, UNICEF and World Obesity. The Global Obesity Coalition is organised around three priorities: to lead, coordinate, and drive action on obesity globally.

In our capacity as a non-state actor in official relations with WHO, we participated in the 148th session of the WHO Executive Board and the 74th World Health Assembly. We delivered a number of statements on key agenda items, including on the COVID-19 response, the Political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, and the Social determinants of health. The 74th World Health Assembly was a significant milestone in our global policy and advocacy work, as it marked the adoption of a new resolution on diabetes with strong language on obesity management and prevention, calling for the development of new recommendations and targets. We worked closely with WHO on the development of these recommendations, and also submitted a comprehensive response to a formal consultation on the recommendations in August 2021 with contributions from our members.

We also participated in the WHO Regional Committee Meetings to review progress to date and discuss ongoing priorities for the selected regions. Alongside our members, we delivered several statements across the African, South-East Asian, European, Eastern Mediterranean, Western Pacific and Americas regions.

12
Global advocacy events

World Obesity was involved in several advocacy events during 2021, coinciding with key moments in the global health and obesity sector calendars, including:

**WHO Executive Board**

On 11 January 2021, together with WHO, World Obesity held a virtual policy dialogue looking at obesity, COVID-19 and the opportunity for action in 2021. Evolving evidence on the close association between COVID-19 and underlying obesity provided new urgency – and opportunity – for global action. This high-level event took place ahead of the 148th Session of the WHO Executive Board and explored strategies for fast-tracking action on obesity during the session and throughout 2021.

**World Obesity Day and Global Obesity Coalition**

On 4 March 2021 (World Obesity Day), World Obesity and WHO convened over 150 stakeholders to share perspectives and mobilise efforts towards a global response to the rising prevalence of obesity. Participants from over 40 countries, working in government, academia and civil society, came together to reflect on the findings of the new COVID-19 and Obesity Atlas and to hear priorities for action from both global leaders and those working on the front lines.

In his opening remarks, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO, introduced the new Global Obesity Coalition established by WHO, World Obesity and UNICEF and provided a clear call to action for governments. The audience also heard words of support from Michael R. Bloomberg, WHO Global Ambassador for Noncommunicable Diseases and Injuries, Founder of Bloomberg LP and Bloomberg Philanthropies, and Henrietta H. Fore, then-Executive Director, UNICEF.

**UN Food Systems Summit**

In May 2021, against the backdrop of the World Health Assembly and in contribution to the UN Food Systems Summit, World Obesity, WHO and UNICEF collaborated on an event to increase awareness of how food systems and health are linked, and why food systems transformation is necessary to achieve health and well-being for all. Members of the Global Obesity Coalition brought together food and health stakeholders to discuss the challenges of multi-sector working and the opportunities for action. The event was attended by close to 200 stakeholders and was followed by a lively discussion.

**WHO Bootcamp**

On Tuesday 19 October 2021, World Obesity organised a WHO bootcamp, ‘Working with WHO to Advance the Global Obesity Agenda: Road Map to a Resolution for Patient Advocates and Members’. The session introduced participants to the WHO and its value for global health, described the need and value of WHO resolutions and Action Plans, and proposed opportunities for advocacy in advance of the World Health Assembly. Members explored how to engage at local, national, regional and global levels by offering messaging and items to include in an obesity resolution, reaching out to member state representatives and supporting them in the negotiations. Following the Bootcamp, a background document was prepared to provide further details, outlining specific actions members can take.

“The correlation between obesity and mortality rates from COVID-19 is clear and compelling. Investment in public health and coordinated, international action to tackle the root causes of obesity is one of the best ways for countries to build resilience in health systems post-pandemic: we urge all countries to seize this moment.”

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, World Health Organization
Knowledge sharing and cooperation

World Obesity’s COVID-19 and Obesity Atlas, published on 4 March 2021, compiled powerful evidence of the link between obesity and poor COVID-19 outcomes, strengthening the obesity community’s arguments for urgent policy change. In addition to the Atlas report, we launched the Global Obesity Forum’s Declaration on Obesity and the Response to COVID-19 with the support of numerous members, calling on government leaders and policymakers to take immediate action.

We have published a series of policy dossiers over the years, which present evidence and case studies on different policy areas related to obesity. These are targeted at policymakers, as well as civil society and academics who wish to advocate on these issues. In 2021, we published three new dossiers on physical activity, food systems and weight stigma, and updated several others. Each of these dossiers includes a briefing paper with recommendations for policy development and implementation. The dossiers were viewed nearly 37,000 times over the course of the year – an increase of 17,192 from 2020.

“Obesity is a disease that does not receive prioritisation commensurate with its prevalence and impact, which is rising fastest in emerging economies. It is a gateway to many other non-communicable diseases and mental health illness and is now a major factor in COVID-19 complications and mortality. There is a window of opportunity to advocate for, fund and implement these actions in all countries to ensure better, more resilient and sustainable health for all, now and in our post-COVID-19 future.”

Declaration on Obesity and the Response to COVID-19, 2021
We realised that there are a lot of blind spots when trying to implement a policy or building a policy. Sometimes we feel we are not heard enough. Adults say we are important, but at the same time they do not listen to us.

Mafalda Gonçalves, CO-CREATE Youth Declaration Task Force

Youth advocacy support

World Obesity continues to be a global Consortium partner in two European projects: CO-CREATE and STOP. Both are committed to adopting a life-course approach to assessing the determinants, system-level drivers, and appropriate interventions to address the childhood obesity epidemic in Europe, and they provide important insights for our advocacy work.

As part of our contribution to the STOP project, we collaborated with the European Public Health Alliance to develop a series of policy summaries. The summaries provide new evidence to support governments and policymakers to identify the most effective childhood obesity interventions. We jointly convened a concurrent debate with key stakeholders from WHO, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), and civil society colleagues to debate the follow-up to the EU Action Plan on Childhood Obesity that expired in 2020.

Acknowledging that youth hold a central role in childhood obesity advocacy, we continued to work with the CO-CREATE Youth Declaration Task Force. We supported youth advocacy for the policy demands listed in the CO-CREATE Youth Declaration, adopted in 2020. As part of our role as the dissemination lead of CO-CREATE, we convened a virtual youth seminar and dialogues to align with prominent days including International Youth Day. On World Children’s Day, we joined forces with the Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC) to launch a youth advocacy toolkit. We also developed youth-oriented advocacy briefings and launched a three-part podcast series Youth Voices for Healthy Choices over the course of the year.

Youth Voices in Healthy Advocacy Spaces: A Guide for You(th) in the Childhood Obesity Space

On Tuesday 23 November 2021, World Obesity and Healthy Caribbean Coalition launched a new youth advocacy toolkit during a joint webinar ‘Let’s reimagine a better world: World Children’s Day 2021’. Youth Voices in Health Advocacy Spaces: A Guide for You(th) in the Childhood Obesity Space provides an overview of advocacy, and tips for adopting a rights-based approach to advocacy work and developing an advocacy plan. Case studies from youth organisations - including Healthy Caribbean Youth, the youth arm of the HCC - were included as well as additional resources.

“As youth voices grow across the globe demanding urgent action on issues such as climate change, mental health, and broken food systems, HCC is proud to be an organisation leading by example, empowering young people and providing a platform for youth-led activism. This guide is the first publication of Healthy Caribbean Youth and will serve to educate and inspire youth advocates across the Caribbean seeking to tackle unhealthy food environments and stem the rise in childhood obesity.”

Maisha Hutton, Executive Director, Healthy Caribbean Coalition.

We realised that there are a lot of blind spots when trying to implement a policy or building a policy. Sometimes we feel we are not heard enough. Adults say we are important, but at the same time they do not listen to us.”

Mafalda Gonçalves, CO-CREATE Youth Declaration Task Force
World Obesity Day

The second unified World Obesity Day (WOD) took place on 4 March 2021 and built on the strong groundwork laid in 2020. It reflected and amplified the need for a cohesive, cross-sector response to the obesity crisis, and used the momentum created by the COVID-19 pandemic to emphasise the importance of addressing obesity as part of a wider push to address public health and food systems inequality.

In October 2020, the Global Advisory Group (GAG) was formed as a steering committee from diverse geographies representing treatment and management organisations as well as patient advocates. The GAG and World Obesity agreed on the theme ‘Everybody Needs Everybody’ as a message of unity and common purpose, that also acts as a call to action for individuals and groups.

A landmark report was commissioned highlighting the risks of obesity and COVID-19, evidenced with global and local country data illustrating the stark contrasts between countries.

More people than ever before came together to mark WOD 2021. Due to lockdown restrictions, many events were held online. While this restricted the type of activities, it also widened participation; 62 countries took part including target members in Mexico, Brazil, Jamaica, Chile, Saudi Arabia, India, Barbados, Thailand, and Nigeria. Events by members included the Mexican Obesity Society’s #JuntosSinEstigma campaign, a five-day online symposium using the ROOTS framework to mobilise for action on obesity, and public-facing educational sessions addressing obesity and COVID-19, weight stigma, nutrition and treatment in the Philippines. A wide range of resources was made freely available on the website. World Obesity staff were available to help organisations and individuals create and adapt materials for local needs.

Content and campaign tools were downloaded 11,793 times – a 182% increase from the previous year. Our key messages were heard globally with articles featuring on outlets including The FT, Guardian, BBC Online, Washington Post, New York Times and CNN. The campaign achieved potential press reach of 7.4 billion with 3,758 news articles written; more than 10.3 million social media impressions; and 65,000 website users. In June 2021, we won the Purpose Award for best Health Cause Campaign, in the Charity & NGO category.

WOD 2021 exceeded its targets in all KPIs and made a significant contribution to shifting the dialogue around obesity with policymakers and the wider public. It also provided inspiration and learnings for future campaigns.

This is a critical period for obesity advocacy, as recommendations for the prevention and treatment of the disease are considered at the highest levels of global health, and by world leaders in light of the pandemic. Our ongoing advocacy efforts have helped shift the dial, bringing stakeholders together from around the world to affect meaningful change.
“Every year I look forward to World Obesity Day because it’s a day that obesity champions, advocates and people with lived experience like myself get to share progress, hope, and reaffirm our commitment towards improving obesity care and prevention efforts. World Obesity Day 2021 was a particularly exciting one for me as I got to share my story on a global platform and bring a face to the many challenges, but also the progress we continue to make as people living with obesity. Through these stories we have seen action being taken to address obesity locally and globally in terms of improving the visibility of the issue. Clearly, stories like mine do count in moving the needle forward on action on obesity.”

Ogweno Stephen, CEO, Stowelink, Kenya

WORLD OBESITY DAY

10,313,121 social impressions
4,455,049 views of hero film
7.5 Billion potential press reach

3,758 news articles, a 428% increase from 2020
65,000 website users

“This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to tackle deeply-ingrained public health challenges like obesity.”

Michael R. Bloomberg, WHO Global Ambassador for Noncommunicable Diseases and Injuries
CONVENING OBESITY STAKEHOLDERS GLOBALLY

World Obesity aims to host, grow, and support networks for obesity stakeholders including patients, scientific and professional organisations, governments, and the private sector. In 2021, we organised and participated in key sector events and used our global network to share knowledge, expertise and resources.

Global Obesity Forum

On Monday 20 September 2021, World Obesity convened the Global Obesity Forum during the UN General Assembly in New York. It took the form of a half-day hybrid event, with some speakers and participants attending in person and others virtually. Attending the event were 150 delegates representing 36 countries.

The Forum was co-hosted by the WHO, World Obesity, and UNICEF (the three founding members of the Global Obesity Coalition). It reflected and reinforced the centrality of the three pillars that form the basis of the Coalition’s work:

- Shifting the narrative on obesity
- Accelerating implementation of effective actions that promote healthy diets and physical activity
- Integrating obesity prevention, management, and treatment into primary health care
Advancing policy research

During 2021, World Obesity also delivered several events focused on key policy issues relating to obesity, including as part of our role in two EU projects to help increase the global reach of the research carried out in each. These included a series of webinars related to our policy dossiers, including on physical activity and food systems. In addition, as part of our role in STOP and CO-CREATE consortium projects, we fostered and coordinated cross-collaborative activities with other projects including the Policy Evaluation Network (PEN) and the Europe-wide Joint Action Best-ReMaP, through a World Café webinar Series and Joint Symposium which focused on the childhood obesity policy implications of the research emerging from across the projects.

Stock Conference

Themed around the genetics of obesity, the 2021 Stock Conference took place in Dublin on 16 and 17 September. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Sadaf Farooqi, Prof. Karine Clement and local host Prof. Carel le Roux, and included a mixture of presentations, breakouts and group discussions. The event brought together around 40 attendees, who challenged each other on their assumptions about obesity and the best courses for diagnosis and treatment. As a result of the Stock Conference, a consensus paper is being drafted which World Obesity hopes to publish in 2022.
Health and Climate Network

World Obesity has also engaged with the Wellcome Trust Health and Climate Network through the Youth Voices for Planetary Health project, aimed at highlighting the synergies between climate and health, with a focus on elevating youth voices in the lead up to COP26 and beyond. This was done through the production of 11 advocacy videos for social media, with further activities including a virtual workshop, briefing targeting policymakers and new podcast series extending into 2022. The advocacy videos are available on our Healthy Voices website along with additional videos and podcasts created throughout 2021 with youth activists. We will continue this work with the aim to identify and spotlight grassroots activists and movements for food systems change to allow for diverse voices in discussions in the future.

Weight Stigma & Bias Working Group

World Obesity’s Weight Stigma & Bias Working Group was launched in 2021 with three core goals:

• To identify common understandings of bias and gaps in knowledge regarding its role in obesity in different populations and geographies

• To propose processes for reviewing the role bias and stigma may play in publications, programmes and messaging

• To make recommendations for tailoring responses for different audiences and geographies through a position paper to help address the stigma faced by people living with obesity

The working group comprised an international team of patients, advocates, academics, and healthcare professionals working in the fields of communication, clinical management, obesity research and education. There were 39 members in total, from 18 different countries. The group was formed because urgent action is required to address high levels of weight stigma experienced by people living with obesity in different parts of the world. The working group was composed of four subgroups focusing on four topics: scientific and public-facing language, overall obesity narrative, obesity through the life course, and food and physical activity narratives.

“What youth movements across the world are calling for is far reaching reforms and total system change, not climate change. We need a complete rewiring of incentives, of laws, and of much more around food, transport, health systems, environment and so many other areas... We have a right to protest for our planet.”

Rhiannon Osborne, Students for Global Health, in Youth Voices for Planetary Health
Members’ communications

In 2020 World Obesity started a weekly ‘COVID Digest’ newsletter to our network, collating credible news stories and research on the COVID-19 pandemic and its links to obesity. This continued throughout 2021.

In December 2021, we celebrated members’ achievements with our annual ‘Year in Review’ content on the World Obesity website. More members than ever before submitted updates, highlighting the exceptional progress being made throughout our global community.

With the pandemic still impacting the status quo, our adapted portfolio of virtual events helped us keep our community connected. We ran two World Obesity Live events in 2021 with our members in Africa and the Caribbean which attracted delegates from a total of 73 different countries.

“Strong support and guidance from World Obesity, and experience from other countries, will help us to promote cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary cooperation and build a larger platform for obesity prevention and control in China.”

Obesity Prevention and Control Society, China
TRAINING AND BUILDING CAPACITY IN OBESITY

World Obesity works to increase professional expertise and capacity through our SCOPE programmes, and to support professional organisations and networks in underserved regions, with a current focus on the Gulf. In 2021 we saw excellent uptake of our clinical educational offers as we continued to expand and improve our programmes.

Clinical education (SCOPE)

SCOPE Certifications by year

8,806 new user accounts were created in 2021, and a total of 523 health professionals became SCOPE Certified. This is more than double the total certifications awarded in 2019, but slightly lower than that of 2020, which was an unprecedentedly successful year. However, as the graph above shows, the number of certifications remains on a clear upward trajectory.

In May, the module ‘Obesity and COVID-19’ – authored by Prof. Donna Ryan and originally released in 2020 – was updated to incorporate data that have emerged since the module’s initial publication, including on vaccine efficacy in people with obesity. The module was then professionally translated into Spanish, French and Portuguese.

Three older modules were redeveloped to our new format, professionally translated into Spanish, French and Portuguese, and made available on the current platform in all languages for the first time in Q1:

- Diagnostic Pathways in Obesity Clinics
- Facilitating Behaviour Change
- When is Surgical Treatment for Obesity Appropriate?

In September, the six-module learning path ‘Obesity and CVD: A Complex Relationship’ was made available on the SCOPE E-Learning platform. The course was developed in collaboration with the World Heart Federation and explores how obesity correlates with CVD (cardiovascular disease) risk, considering the impact of obesity on the heart and the interaction of CVD with obesity-related complications.
Three additional new modules were released in Q4, funded under the OBTAINS-E2 grant:

- **An Overview of Bariatric Surgery**, Author: Prof. Mohammed Alnaami
- **Medical Nutrition Therapy for Obesity**, Authors: Prof. Mahenderan Appukutty and Dr Geeta Appannah
- **Emerging Therapies in Obesity Medicine**, Authors: Prof. Joseph Proietto, Dr Deborah Bade Horn, Dr Shelby Sullivan, Prof. Ahmad Aly

The Clinical Care Committee mapped all SCOPE modules against the Obesity Medicine Education Collaborative (OMEC) competency framework. Learners are now able to track which skills and competencies they have developed by taking SCOPE courses and can select courses to enrol in based on which competencies are covered. This is available in Spanish, French and Portuguese.

At the end of 2021, work began on preparing a nine-episode podcast series. The primary audience will be medical students. Guests and hosts will include international obesity specialists as well as patients living with obesity. The series is due to launch in Q1/2 of 2022.

SCOPE School was adapted in 2020 to accommodate online delegates in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout 2021, four SCOPE School Global events took place: Obesity and Mental Health; Obesity and Bariatric Surgery; Obesity and Cardiovascular Disease; and Obesity and Diabetes. The latter three schools were held in conjunction with the International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders, World Heart Federation, and the International Diabetes Federation respectively, allowing for a greatly expanded and diverse audience.

“The program has been eye opening, I can say that I will never view obesity the same way again. My understanding of the identification, dialogue, diagnosis, examination, investigations, complications, associated problems in a patient with obesity has greatly improved.”

Ojo Tosin, final year medical student from Kogi state Nigeria
Gulf and Lebanon Recommendations

Since 2019, World Obesity has been working with regional experts on the development and implementation of regional recommendations for the treatment and management of adult obesity.

The first phase of this project was the co-development of recommendations by the Gulf and Lebanon Expert Group and World Obesity. The recommendations report was launched at the virtual SCOPE School in October 2020. This SCOPE School – which was held alongside the 2nd UAE obesity conference – was regionally focused and so had the ideal audience for the recommendations.

The second phase of the project – which commenced in 2021 due to COVID-19 and is still ongoing – involves the hosting of local workshops in each country to facilitate the adoption of these recommendations. Three workshops took place in 2021:

- ‘Current Recommendations and Strategies to Prevent and Manage Obesity in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: What to do next?’ took place virtually on Friday 2 April 2021. The workshop was jointly held by World Obesity, the Saudi Arabia Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery and the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties. Twelve key priorities and recommendations came out of the workshop, which ranged from utilising evidence on the economic impact of obesity to working with insurance companies to bring coverage in line with recommendations.

- ‘Gulf & Lebanon Regional Recommendations: Strategic Meeting of Key Stakeholders in the United Arab Emirates’ was held virtually on Thursday 18 November 2021. The workshop was jointly held by the Imperial College London Diabetes Centre and the Abu Dhabi Public Health Centre and was held adjacent to the 3rd UAE Obesity Conference (a SCOPE-accredited event).

- ‘Updates on Qatar Strategies & Recommendations for Management & Prevention of Obesity’ was held in a hybrid format on Friday 3 December 2021. The in-person component was held at Sheraton Grand Doha Resort & Convention Hotel, Doha, Qatar. The workshop was held in collaboration with the Hamad Medical Corporation and was the first national obesity workshop held in the country.
COLLECTING AND DISSEMINATING KNOWLEDGE ON OBESITY

World Obesity provides members with high-quality data, health systems information, and evidence on how to address obesity. In 2021, we made significant improvements to the Global Obesity Observatory, conducted important research into the economic impact of obesity, and disseminated new evidence and insights via our high-impact journals.

Journals

World Obesity publishes four scientific, peer-reviewed journals, each focusing on a different area of obesity research: systematic reviews, paediatrics, clinical treatment, and science and practice. The journals provide an excellent resource for those in the obesity field and raise our standing and reputation.

The table below shows the impact of our three subscription-based journals in recent years, using the Clarivate Impact Factor which measures the frequency with which the ‘average article’ in a journal has been cited in a particular year or period.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Obesity</td>
<td>Impact Factor</td>
<td>3.400</td>
<td>3.980</td>
<td>3.713</td>
<td>3.429</td>
<td>4.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Obesity</td>
<td>Predicted Impact Factor</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>2.529</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This year Clarivate changed their method for calculating the Impact Factor. They now include citations from Early View content in the numerator of the equation, and Early View papers will filter into the denominator in future years. As a result of this change many journals are seeing an increase to their Impact Factors this year.

Obesity Reviews continued to be the highest ranked obesity journal by Impact Factor and was the 12th highest ranked in the Endocrinology & Metabolism field (source: ISI Journal Citation Reports). Twelve standard issues of the journal were published throughout 2021, in addition to six supplementary issues.

Twelve issues of Pediatric Obesity were published in 2021. Pediatric Obesity was the 13th highest-ranked journal in the field of Pediatrics (source: ISI Journal Citation Reports).

Six issues of Clinical Obesity were published throughout the year, in addition to the compilation issue of COVID-19 research which continues to be added to. The journal published numerous widely-cited studies on COVID-19, increasing its article downloads.

Obesity Science and Practice, the open access journal co-owned with The Obesity Society, published six issues throughout the year. The journal witnessed a large increase in submissions (up 43.9% on 2020) and a decrease in accepted articles, representing an improvement in the overall quality of accepted manuscripts.
In this issue:

- Observations in up to 25000 patients
- New obesity-related cardiovascular endpoints
- Comprehensive assessments

- The obesity epidemic: what's new
- The latest research
- Future trends and implications

Published on behalf of

Obesity Reviews
is the highest ranked obesity journal by Impact Factor
Global Obesity Observatory

The Global Obesity Observatory is an online, interactive database of information about the prevalence and epidemiology of obesity.

2021 has seen several developments and a significant upturn in usage including an 812% increase in page views compared to 2020. This year we provided:

- Comprehensive worldwide data updates
- Translations – EU official languages
- Presentation Maps – key maps available for download
- Economics section
- Regional Atlas
- Driver & Comorbidity Reports

Work to update the data within the database is continuous. Over the course of 2021 the data team added more than 500 updates from more than 90 countries. The large cross-national survey EUROSTAT data for 2019 were also imported.

In 2021 we have added over 500 data updates for over 90 countries

The Global Obesity Observatory is a fantastic resource. It is a treasure trove of information and a one-stop shop for the best and latest global obesity data.”

Prof. Donna Ryan, Pennington Biomedical Research Center
Economic Impact of Obesity

Since September 2019, World Obesity has been working with the Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International to improve the quality, comparability, and communicability of the economic evidence on the impact of overweight and obesity. Before 2021, World Obesity and RTI created a scientific committee with experts from academia, OECD and World Bank, to provide an advisory and oversight function. Throughout 2021, CoOAG met a series of times to firm up the methodology for the calculation of economic impact and to select eight pilot countries.

To support the expansion of the economic impact model beyond the eight pilot countries, CoOAG was expanded to be more representative of the world. Three new members were invited to the existing group following interviews: Dr Soewarta Kosen, Dr Alice Achieng Ojwang and Dr Juan Ángel Rivera Dommarco.

The first academic manuscript from this project was published in BMJ Global Health: ‘Economic impacts of overweight and obesity: current and future estimates for eight countries’. A shorter summary of the report was also published on World Obesity’s website. World Obesity and RTI International jointly held a webinar on 9 November 2021 dedicated to the work: ‘Saving lives, saving resources: the economics of obesity’.

Phase 2 will continue into 2022.

We know that people living with obesity are at an increased risk of disease and death – something that the COVID-19 pandemic has unfortunately made very clear. We hope that the reality of these risks, along with our findings, renew a sense of urgency to address the obesity crisis on a global scale. It is never too late to make meaningful policy changes in an effort to improve livelihoods and slow economic impacts.”

Rachel Nugent, Vice President of Global Noncommunicable Diseases at RTI
CONCLUDING REMARKS

We want to thank all our members and partners for their support during another challenging and remarkable year in global obesity.

2021 was a time of rapid adaptation and change in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, yet despite the challenges our global network has emerged stronger than ever. World Obesity membership has increased yet again. We have made significant strides in global advocacy efforts, with important developments at the highest level as WHO considered recommendations for action on obesity. Our SCOPE clinical education programmes have continued to expand, both in terms of the educational offer and the number of healthcare professionals signing up. Our journals and data website continue to be world-leading assets for the obesity sector. And our numerous collaborations and cooperative efforts with members and civil society partners have helped demonstrate solidarity across the obesity sector and drive lasting change in communities around the world.

Looking ahead to 2022

The achievements of 2021 are a strong basis for World Obesity’s future work in 2022 and beyond, especially:

• Continuing global policy efforts, with obesity squarely on the WHO agenda
• Convening World Obesity Day and encouraging cooperative global campaigning
• Addressing obesity stigma via the findings of the Stigma Working Group
• Encouraging youth engagement and collaboration including STOP and CO-CREATE
• Leading international events, including the International Congress on Obesity in Melbourne, October 2022

In July 2022, World Obesity welcomes our incoming President Louise Baur. As our world continues to adjust and evolve alongside the pandemic, World Obesity is ready to build on the achievements and learnings of 2021 to create more lasting impact in the years to come.
Charitable objectives of World Obesity

World Obesity is registered in the United Kingdom. World Obesity’s charitable objectives are “to promote the preservation and protection of health and relief of sickness for the public benefit in the field of obesity and its related disorders by (i) promoting research, the dissemination of the results of such research, and exchange of scientific information in the field of obesity internationally, (ii) developing a deeper understanding of how to achieve and maintain a healthy bodyweight, and managing and preventing obesity and its related conditions by those engaged in the study of obesity, healthcare professionals, health related organisations, governments and the international community”.

Public benefit

World Obesity’s activities continue to give identifiable benefits to the public. The trustees confirm that they have complied with duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission’s general guidance on public benefit and seek to meet World Obesity’s charitable purposes in following its objectives.

Structure, governance and management

The Trustees (Executive Committee)

The directors of the company are also trustees of the charity for the purpose of charity law, and, under the Articles of Association, are also known as members of the Executive Committee. The President and President-Elect are elected by General Council and serve for a term of two years in each position. The Treasurer is elected by the General Council to serve a maximum period of two terms. The Vice Presidents for each region are elected by their respective regional bodies and the General Council has approved broader regional representation to ensure Board composition is reflective of the global nature of obesity.

When a new trustee is appointed, the charity will provide a copy of the Trustees Pack which includes information on:

- role and responsibilities of a trustee;
- mission and objectives of the organisation;
- legal status and governance;
- organisational structure and staffing;
- finance including expense claim rules;
- list of professional advisors;
- Memorandum and Articles of Association

The Charity’s current Board is comprised of 13 members, responsible for the strategic direction and policies of the charity as delegated by the General Council. The Executive Committee holds regular meetings and teleconference calls to discuss relevant issues and make final decisions to feed back to the sub-committees and task forces. Relevant senior staff members are invited to attend certain meetings in order to facilitate operational details.

The Executive Committee, with support from the relevant sub-committees, considers organisational risk that World Obesity may face, the strategic position and any difficulties the organisation may have in achieving its goals.
General Council
The General Council is the governing body of World Obesity. Members of World Obesity are entitled to send one representative per member organisation to attend general meetings personally or by proxy, and to vote on behalf of their organisation.

Nominations Committee
The Nominations Committee consists of the President, the President-Elect, the Past-President and three co-opted members. The Nominations Committee manages the nomination process of the President-Elect. The Nominations Committee reports directly to the Executive Committee.

Finance Committee
The Finance Committee collates the yearly budgets for approval by the Executive Committee and monitors the performance against that budget during regular meetings through the year. The Finance Committee also considers the financial risk World Obesity may encounter and recommends strategies to mitigate any identified risk. The Finance Committee reports directly to the Executive Committee.

Publications Committee
The Publications Committee manages the journal portfolio of World Obesity. The Publications Committee meets at least twice a year and focuses on increasing the impact of World Obesity’s journals. The Publications Committee reports directly to the Executive Committee.

Clinical Care Committee
The Clinical Care Committee focuses on management of the charity’s educational programmes for healthcare professionals. The Clinical Care Committee reports directly to the Executive Committee.

Policy and Prevention Committee
The Policy and Prevention Committee focuses on public health policy and advocacy work. It is supported in an advisory capacity by a Scientific and Technical Advisory Network (STAN) of 54 expert members, including 10 early-career professionals. The Policy and Prevention Committee reports directly to the Executive Committee.

The Scientific Programme and ICO Liaison Committee
The Scientific Programme and ICO Liaison Committee provides leadership on conference programmes, speaker invitation and other event-related strategy issues. The Scientific Programme and ICO Liaison Committee reports directly to the Executive Committee.
Health Systems Committee

In 2017 the Executive Committee agreed to establish a working committee to promote obesity treatment and prevention services through a Health Systems approach. The Committee launched in 2018 and published MAPPS. It is currently inactive.

Management

The day-to-day management and decision making of World Obesity is delegated by the trustees to the CEO.

Employee participation

World Obesity is committed to employee engagement. A motivated and committed team ensures that all avenues to further the work of World Obesity are explored. World Obesity works hard to promote interaction and trust between the leadership and employees, and to promote collaborative relationships through team building, cross-functional projects and training. World Obesity seeks to understand and appreciate different perspectives and to address employee concerns and issues. In addition, World Obesity encourages, celebrates and recognises the excellence of the team and actively solicits employee feedback and evaluates and recommends strategies for improving employee engagement.

Reserves policy

The trustees have agreed to maintain an annually reviewed reserve policy. The trustees consider that the ideal level of reserves as of 31 December 2021 is enough to cover one year of operating expenses of the charity. The trustees have agreed an increased level of expenditure for 2022 to invest in policy and advocacy work to secure a WHO resolution on obesity. This investment is expected to lead to a reduction of the free reserves. The current reserves plus pledged income is expected to result in the free reserves of the charity being in line with this policy. This reserves policy considers the commitments of the charity such as rental and legal expenses relating to the occupation of the premises at Ludgate House, salaries of employees and other similar liabilities, plus programmes and projects that the charity is committed to completing.

Risk management

The Finance Committee and World Obesity management have assessed the major risks to which World Obesity is exposed as including loss of one or more sources of income, departure of key employees, low rates of unrestricted funds and continued need to ring-fence funds for advocacy, uncertainties of congress meetings and other impact of pandemics.

The Board and management have reviewed these areas of potential risk and concluded that, operationally, these risks are significantly mitigated. Financial and legal record keeping is performed by World Obesity which has adequate internal controls, insurance cover is reviewed every year, and a lawyer is on hand when needed. The exposure to a loss of income was considered when the reserves policy was agreed, and reserves are held to cover one year’s net expenditure on programmes operated by the direct employees of World Obesity. Long-term commitments are not made without having the cash in hand. Work has been done to understand the environment in which World Obesity operates and initiatives and programmes have been put in place based on the findings of this research.

Investment policy

The trustees periodically review the policy for investing the funds of the charity. It has been decided that in the current phase of the World Obesity Federation’s development, funds will be retained as cash to ensure that the activities of the federation will be adequately funded.
Fiduciary responsibilities

The trustees, who are also directors of the World Obesity Federation for the purposes of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees’ report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time of the financial position of the charitable company and group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company’s website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

In so far as we are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company and group’s auditor is unaware; and
- The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.
Financial Overview

At the end of the year to 31 December 2021 the total funds of the charitable group were £1,114,184. The overall position of the charity has changed from £986,693 in 2020 to £1,114,184 in 2021.

The net position for the charity was a surplus of £127,491 in 2021 compared to a deficit of £7,361 in 2020.

At the end of the year a review of our reserves was undertaken. This resulted in a total free reserve (excluding net book value of fixed assets and designated funds) of £1,105,260 at the year end.

The principal income sources for the charity in 2021 were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European Commission</td>
<td>310,361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>157,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Education (SCOPE)</td>
<td>679,619</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy activities</td>
<td>266,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>487,638</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of the World Obesity Federation

Registered Company Number: 03802726

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of World Obesity Federation (the ‘charitable company’) for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

• give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company’s affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
• have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
• have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The full report, annual accounts and financial statements are available on the World Obesity website.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors’ responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC’s Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees’ use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company’s ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.
Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of trustees’ remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- The trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees’ Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.
Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company’s internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and the related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors’ use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to event or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company’s ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors report to the related disclosure in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor’s report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company’s members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company’s members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors’ report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company’s members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

H M Day (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Xeinadin Auditing Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Beckett House
36 Old Jewry
London
EC2R 8DD
Date: 1 July 2022
Financial statements

World Obesity Federation  Statement Of Financial Activities Charity  41
World Obesity Federation  Balance Sheet  42
World Obesity Federation  Cash Flow Statement  43
World Obesity Federation Statement Of Financial Activities
Charity (Incorporating Income And Expenditure Account)

For the year ended 31 December 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restricted Funds £</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds £</th>
<th>2021 Total Funds £</th>
<th>2020 Total Funds £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**INCOMING RESOURCES FROM GENERATED FUNDS:**

**Voluntary income**
Donations and legacies  -  60,132  60,132  553

**Activities for generating funds:**
Congress and events  -  -  -  -
Royalties and other income  -  277,195  277,195  386,452

**Investment income**
Investment income  -  2  2  116

**Incoming resources from Charitable Activities:**
Policy  -  266,536  266,536  301,454
Education 179,524  1,225,307  1,404,831  936,950
Research 130,837  530,017  660,854  623,342
Membership  -  32,195  32,195  7,783

**Total incoming resources** 310,361  2,391,384  2,701,745  2,256,650

**RESOURCES EXPENDED**

**Costs of generating funds**
Voluntary income  -  451,549  451,549  329,133

**Charitable activities:**
Policy  -  290,700  290,700  310,339
Membership services  -  47,570  47,570  21,788
Education 179,469  922,102  1,101,571  820,883
Research 130,892  551,972  682,864  781,868

**Total charitable expenditure** 310,361  1,812,344  2,122,705  1,934,878

**Total resources expended** 310,361  2,263,893  2,574,254  2,264,011

**Net incoming resources before transfers between funds**  -  127,491  127,491  (7,361)

**Net movement in funds**  -  -  -  (7,361)
Funds at 1 January  -  986,693  986,693  994,054

**Funds at 31 December**  -  1,114,184  1,114,184  986,693
# World Obesity Federation Balance Sheet

Registered Company Number: 03802726

As at 31 December 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fixed Assets</th>
<th>2021 £</th>
<th>2020 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tangible fixed assets</td>
<td>8,924</td>
<td>10,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fixed Assets</td>
<td>8,924</td>
<td>10,976</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Assets</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>644,065</td>
<td>562,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td>2,192,833</td>
<td>3,204,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>2,836,898</td>
<td>3,766,968</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1,731,638)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(2,791,251)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Current Assets</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,105,260</td>
<td>975,717</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£1,114,184</td>
<td>£986,693</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funds</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restricted funds</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted funds – general fund</td>
<td>1,114,184</td>
<td>986,693</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total Funds        | £1,114,184 | £986,693   |

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of the Trustees on 9 June 2022 and were signed below on its behalf by:

Trustee
Professor Caroline Apovian

Trustee
Professor John Wilding
### World Obesity Federation Cash Flow Statement

Registered Company Number: 03802726

As at 31 December 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021 £</th>
<th>2020 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash flows from operating activities</td>
<td>(1,007,580)</td>
<td>364,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of tangible fixed assets</td>
<td>(4,273)</td>
<td>(9,759)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of tangible fixed assets</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</td>
<td>(1,011,853)</td>
<td>355,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</td>
<td>3,204,686</td>
<td>2,849,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</td>
<td>2,192,833</td>
<td>3,204,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net income/expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)</td>
<td>127,491</td>
<td>(7,361)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Adjustments for:

- **Depreciation charges**: 6,324 | 11,251
- **Profit on disposal of fixed assets**: - | -
- **Interest received**: - | -
- **Decrease/(increase) in debtors**: (81,782) | 122,499
- **(Decrease)/increase in creditors**: (1,059,613) | 238,432

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021 £</th>
<th>2020 £</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(1,007,580)</td>
<td>364,821</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>