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INMED Partnerships for Children & the Mondelēz International Foundation Announce *Health in Action Awards*

PORT ELIZABETH, SOUTH AFRICA (April 9,2018): Children at more than 100 primary schools in Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth are eagerly waiting to hear if their school will win the first Health in Action Award—and with that a fabulous new obstacle course for their play yard.

An initiative of INMED Partnerships for Children / INMED South Africa in partnership with the Mondelēz International Foundation, the *Health in Action* Award recognises excellence and best practices among primary schools that participate in the *Health in Action* programme. Launched in 2015,, this school-based programme aims to improve the health, nutrition and well-being of children

through nutrition and preventive health education, access to fresh foods including through school gardens and aquaponics, increasing physical activity and promoting healthy lifestyles.

The competition is designed to recognise innovative collaborations of teachers, students, food preparers, school administrators and parents that foster healthy lifestyles.

“We believe that through these competitions, schools are encouraged to improve their efforts in ensuring that healthy messages are part of their daily routines,” says Unathi Sihlahla, Programmes Director for INMED in South Africa. “The number of submissions we received is very encouraging.”

Schools competing for the award are judged on how effectively and creatively they are incorporating healthy eating into classroom activities, ensuring that physical activity is part of daily activities, whether the school has a food garden and how fresh produce is used to improve children’s lives. Schools also are encouraged to submit supporting evidence with their applications, such as photos, videos or posters. A panel of independent adjudicators from Mondelez South Africa and INMED will determine the winning entries based on creativity and originality, teamwork, evidence of involvement of parents and percentage of the school population participating.

“We were incredibly impressed to see how effectively the various schools have incorporated the three elements of the Health in Action program into their curricula,” says Navisha Bechan-Sewkuran, Corporate and Government Affairs Manager, Mondelez South Africa.

“Through their applications, we could feel the passion and enthusiasm of the educators and pupils, and it was evident that these schools have committed to helping their students live healthier lifestyles.”

Three prizes will be awarded to schools in Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg. First prize will be a fully installed, 18-piece Kidbuddie outdoor obstacle course. Second prize will be a R10,000 voucher from Builders Warehouse. Third prize will be a R5,000 voucher from Builders Warehouse.

The winning schools in Port Elizabeth will be announced on 13 April 2018 at a special event from 10am – 1.30pm at Nelson Mandela University – Missionvale campus.

The winning schools in Johannesburg will be announced on 20 April 2018 at a special event from 10am – 1.30pm at North Haven Country Estate, 422 Fleetwood Ave., North Riding, Johannesburg.

Members of the media are invited to attend. Please contact Janet Ogilvie at 27 11 486 1090 ext. 1096 or jogilvie@inmed.org to RSVP.

About INMED

INMED Partnerships for Children is a nonprofit international development organization that has worked in more than 100 countries for over 30 years to help create pathways for disadvantaged children and families achieve well-being and self-reliance. Through multisector partnerships and in-country affiliates, INMED builds effective systems that deliver innovative and sustainable approaches to break complex cycles of poverty for current and future generations.

Since 2006, in-country affiliate INMED South Africa has been working in collaboration with a wide range of corporate, foundation and government partners to transform the health, lives and futures of South Africa's most vulnerable children. INMED South Africa's programs focus on food security, child and community health, and economic and social development via climate-smart agriculture and participatory education. Incorporated under Section 21, INMED South Africa is a registered nonprofit organization (NPC/PBO) recognized by the Department of Social Development and SARS.

About the Mondelēz International Foundation

The Mondelēz International Foundation (MIF) is the charitable arm of global food and beverage conglomerate Mondelēz International. Through international partnerships with leading NGOs, MIF funds nutrition education, active play and fresh foods programs to empower more than one million children and their families around the world to lead healthier lives. For information, visit <http://www.mondelezinternational.com/impact>.