

American Model United Nations General Assembly Second Committee

GA Second/I/2

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Second Committee

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Recalling resolution 76/124 of 10 December 2021 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, resolution 78/168 of 19 December 2023, and resolutions 72/238 and 78/144, which call on Member States to center climate-resilient agriculture in National Development Plans and establish a United Nations Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries (UNTBLDC) in order to facilitate knowledge sharing and the proliferation of agricultural technologies,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2024 Pact for the Future, which acknowledges the importance of providing emergency food supplies to eliminate food insecurity and malnutrition,

Noting with approval the launch of the Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty, which highlights the role of conflict and other crises in exacerbating food and nutrition insecurity,

Welcoming the fifty-second session of the Committee on World Food Security, and the adoption of its final report and its outcome documents, and especially welcoming the adoption of voluntary guidelines on reducing inequalities for food security and nutrition,

Expressing deep concern over the current state of global focused food insecurity, with 1.7 billion people currently facing hunger and food insecurity directly related to extreme weather and climate-related disasters, worsened by the rise of industrial agriculture practices that have lead to an increase in biodiversity loss along with increase emissions that worsens environmental disasters and makes adaptation more challenging,

Further noting with concern that Member States classified as Less Developed Countries (LDC) suffer from these issues at disproportionate levels with 20.4 percent of the global suffering population being made up of African and Asian citizens holding the largest number at 384.5 million people suffering in 2023, and LDC economies often depend on agriculture, particularly subsistence farming in rural areas, which serves as a primary source of livelihood for many households,

Reaffirming Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which recognizes the fundamental human right to adequate food that is safe, reliable, affordable and nutritious,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Goals 2 (Zero Hunger), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and 13 (Climate Action), which underscore the need to build sustainable food systems that are resilient to climate change and environmental challenges,

Reaffirming the importance of transparent distribution channels, in collaboration with local governments and civil society organizations, to prevent diversion or misuse of aid,

Deeply concerned of natural disasters, including droughts, desertification, floods and other devastating effects of climate change, which act as a barrier to the progress of this committee making achieving Sustainable Development Goal Two: Zero Hunger harder to achieve,

Recognizing the impact of conflict on food security, and that 70 percent of the 309 million people facing acute hunger are in fragile or conflict-hit countries, particularly sites of violence and instability in the Middle East, Africa, Caribbean, southern Asia and Eastern Europe,

Recognizing also the importance of protecting the rights of smallholders, and reaffirming support for the empowerment of small-scale farmers, youth, family farmers, fishers and women as critical

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for improving agricultural development, food security and nutrition,

Further Recognizing the high number of people affected by food-related humanitarian emergencies, of whom a majority are women and children, and acknowledging the primary duty and responsibility of Member States to ensure access to adequate food, provide nutrition assistance and promote sustainable food security solutions tailored to the specific needs of internally disadvantaged persons, such as women, children, Indigenous Peoples and displaced individuals, within their jurisdiction,

Acknowledging the negative impact of agricultural subsidies on countries in the Global South,

Noting with deep concern that climate change has decimated farmland across the world, but especially within low-income, conflict and climate-vulnerable countries,,

Bearing in mind the necessity of encouraging and fostering open trade practices for participants of all sizes and discouraging oligopolistic control of the agricultural sector,

Notes the inelastic nature of the food and agriculture sector and highlights the importance of fostering open competition,,

Understanding the nature of economies of scale and applying well-established economic understandings of the relationship between lower marginal costs and large-scale export competitiveness,

Guided by the spirit of cooperation and the opportunity to not only bolster the global food supply but also create greater parity in the agriculture sector,

- 1. Encourages willing and able Member States to provide support, both financial and agricultural, to developing countries, by sharing infrastructure, tools and education through the World Food Programme;
- 2. Calls upon Member States, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the United Nations system and humanitarian and development organizations to:
- (a) Continue to assess and improve how innovation can be more effective and integrated humanitarian action in a sustainable manner;
- (b) Promote the sharing of best practices and lessons learned on innovative tools, processes and approaches, including those from large-scale natural disasters and humanitarian crises which will help ensure that aid efforts are tailored to the specific needs and circumstances of the recipient countries, with Member States actively participating in the decision-making processes and delegating resources as needed on a case-by-case basis;
- 3. Recommends further partnerships between United Nations agencies, such as Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Environment Programme and regional organizations like the African Union to scale up climate-smart agricultural initiatives;
- 4. Endorses the FAO to increase regular communication and advance regional bodies such as, but not limited to, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, the Union of South American Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to support these regional institutions better and increase the efficiency of their operations;
 - 5. Supports the FAOS continued collaborations with regional bodies to:
- (a) Cooperate with UNTBLDC to share technology addressing changing climate contexts, including;
 - (i) Genetically modified seeds;
 - (ii) Rapid transmission and sharing of research relating to new agricultural technologies;
 - (iii) The development of agricultural infrastructure to help streamline crop production, transportation and protection from climate disasters such as floods and droughts;
 - (iv) Endorsing the FAO to be the platform with which this information and technology is available globally;

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- (v) Encouraging researchers, both in academia and the private and public sectors to share their knowledge and remove barriers to access by waiving copyright claims;
- (b) Create preventative practices in agriculture by diversifying supply chains, climate resistant infrastructure and farming techniques, crops bred to be drought and flood resistant such as irrigation systems, soil restoration, storage facilities, transportation networks and a desalination system, thereby reducing vulnerability to external shocks such as climate events, market fluctuations and geopolitical conflicts;
- (c) Enhance data collection and report mechanisms to track the distribution of aid across a wide variety of channels to ensure aid is effective;
- (d) Create distribution networks to rural areas and subsistence farms in the Global South, specifically in the to share technology such as genetically modified seeds that are resistant to changes in temperature;
- (e) Increase education of traditional sustainable farming methods in developing nations as a low-cost alternative to advanced technologies. Such traditional methods would include things like crop rotation, slash and burn and other traditional farming methods;
- (f) Funding research on the effects of introducing global price monitoring programs to protect the competitiveness and income of smaller-scale farmers;
- (g) Collaborate with Member States to have efficient and immediate emergency responses to negative agricultural supply shocks through the World Food Programme Conflict Sector organized food bank initiatives;
- (h) Spread geospatial data to Member States to utilize for improving their efforts in analyzing land quality to examine patterns, trends, or areas of risk for agricultural development by mapping locations of the Earth's surface to;
 - (i) Allow government agencies and farmers to access crop conditions such as weather impacts, soil quality, and vegetation data;
 - (ii) Ensure land is optimally used by maximizing productivity and minimizing environmental impact;
- (i) Ensure that information reaches small-scale and subsistence farmers, with particular attention to farmers in marginalized communities, such as minority populations and women-owned farms;
- (j) Discourage monoculture by incentivizing diversification of crop output through more lucrative trade deals if crop diversification is higher than in previous year and agricultural practices such as excessive irrigation that cause soil erosion by incentivizing the growth of less water-intensive, underutilized and Indigenous crops;
- 6. *Urges* Member State collaboration with the International Fund for Agricultural Development, which has a strong history of ensuring rural development and progress, in order to revitalize the dying traditional practice of pastoralism by:
- (a) Expanding research into climate-resistant breeds of goats, cattle and other herding animals in order to ensure flocks are more drought, climate and heat-resistant in light of the mounting impacts of climate change;
- (b) Expanding donations and making available further resources for grassland restoration, with strategies including but not limited to reseeding of native grasslands, control of invasive species and better soil/fertilizer practices;
- (c) Expanding access to education for pastoral farmers on proper grazing and herding practices, which can aid in the stewardship of the grasslands that remain;
- 7. Recommends taking a dualistic approach to supporting agricultural development where investment is prioritized for sustainable agricultural development in both the Global North and South, aiming to reduce the negative emissions of industrial farms and developing self-sufficient agriculture;

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- 8. *Proposes* the establishment of regional cooperative councils on weather monitoring and early warning systems, expanding on the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) in order to:
 - (a) Generate reports on crop situations, failures and potential environmental impacts not just for individual states, but biogeographic regions as well;
- (b) Employ national and regional experts in order to ensure GIEWS data is understood and employed properly;
 - 9. Establish a global partnership between the World Food Programme and sovereign governments to begin sourcing food from small-scale farms, the definition of which to be determined by each sovereign government;
- 10. *Recommends* the Secretary-General to call for a conference to be held in 2025 which will be tasked with:
- (a) Establishing a permanent funding mechanism for assessed contributions by Member States to UNTBLDC;
 - (b) Evaluating the current administrative structure of UNTBLDC officers, with an eye towards expanding the capacity of the bank;
 - 11. Recommends further that Member States consider liberating proprietary intellectual property rights for agricultural innovations, which, if globalized, would vastly increase worldwide crop yields and innovations would be determined to qualify for international property liberation if their impact is significant enough, as determined by the FAO.

Passed, Yes: 83 / No: 7 / Abstain: 5

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