

25 – 29 MARCH 2018

Documentation of the Work of the Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations (FAO)



Conference B

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Committee Staff

Director	Lauren Kiser
Assistant Director	Benjamin Wrigley
Chair	Arielle Hooks
Rapporteur	Cory Gregg

Agenda

- I. Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices
- II. Growing Green Cities through Urban Agriculture
- III. Implementing Strategies for Agriculture Development in Post-Emergency Response Plans

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
FAO/1/1	Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices	31 votes in favor, 1 vote against, 0 abstentions
FAO/1/2	Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices	Adopted without a vote
FAO/1/3	Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices	Adopted without a vote
FAO/1/4	Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices	31 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 1 abstention
FAO/1/5	Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Growing Green Cities through Urban Agriculture
- II. Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices
- III. Implementing Strategies for Agricultural Development in Post-Emergency Response Plans

The session was attended by representatives of 32 Member States.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of II, I, III, beginning discussion on the topic of “Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices.” On Monday, several working groups formed; after initial negotiations, many ideas emerged such as education for farmers, prevention of deforestation and land degradation, technical assistance to Member States, and water conservation for agriculture. By the end of the day, the Dais received a total of five working papers. Throughout the rest of Monday and Tuesday, delegates continued to negotiate and work collaboratively to develop their ideas and gain consensus.

On Wednesday, five draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, one of which had an amendment. The committee adopted five resolutions following voting procedure, three of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including sustainable economic development, infrastructure and trade, best practice sharing, and vocational training. Delegates were professional and diplomatic and reached consensus on the approaches to promote sustainable agriculture.



Code: FAO/1/1

Committee: Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations

Topic: Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices

1 *The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations,*

2
3 *Recognizing* the need for improved transportation networks to facilitate market accessibility, and the role the United
4 Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
5 (FAO)'s Technical Cooperation Programme have in achieving the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*
6 (2015),

7
8 *Emphasizing* the joint FAO and World Health Organization (WHO) *Codex Alimentarius*, which highlights the
9 importance of facilitating trade among Member States for the purposes of improving food security and recognizing
10 the importance of joint cooperation between the FAO and the United Nations Conference on Trade and
11 Development (UNCTAD),

12
13 *Guided by* FAO's Save Food Initiative and the World Food Programme (WFP)'s Zero Loss for Zero Hunger
14 Initiative, which are concerned with the losses of key agricultural staples that occur as a result of inadequate storage,
15 preservation, and transportation,

16
17 *Understanding* the importance of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and public-private-partnerships (PPPs) in
18 meeting necessary human capital attainment and funding targets to achieve the goals of the United Nations
19 Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)'s BioTrade Initiative,

20
21 *Acknowledging* the FAO 2018-2019 Biennial Theme "Climate Change and its impact on the work and activities of
22 the FAO" endorsed at the 40th Session of the Conference and the need for immediate increases in global agricultural
23 yields in spite of challenges extreme whether events caused by climate change pose on crop production,

24
25 *Recalling* FAO report "Estonia and FAO: partnering to achieve sustainability in agriculture," which emphasizes the
26 importance of holding regional forums to unify agricultural development stakeholders such as policy makers,
27 entrepreneurs, and scientists,

28
29 *Recognizing* the positive results of the FAO's individual Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs) in Member
30 States including Kenya and Montenegro, that implement rural development strategies and investments which in turn
31 improve rural farmers' income opportunities by enabling the sale of products through technological and
32 infrastructure innovation,

33
34 *Alarmed by* resource depletion and water management noted in the FAO report *The State of Land and Water Use for*
35 *Agriculture*,

36
37 *Drawing attention* to the need for improved water management, specifically water distribution and resource
38 extraction, and the role that the FAO AQUASTAT database in distributing data and information on water,

39
40 1. *Authorizes* FAO to collaborate with the UNDP through the FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme to work
41 with Member States to improve transportation networks and to facilitate market accessibility;

42
43 2. *Encourages* joint collaboration between FAO and UNCTAD for the purpose of adopting dynamic regional
44 frameworks that:

- 45
46 a. *Ensure* improved food security and intensify investments for systematic sustainability and resilience in
47 regions where current regional frameworks are restrictive and do not reflect the United Nations'
48 commitment to facilitate biotrade;

49

- 50 b. Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in global agricultural markets in accordance with
51 SDG 2 Target 2.B;
52
- 53 3. *Calls upon* FAO’s Save Food Initiative to work with WFP’s Zero Loss for Zero Hunger Initiative to further
54 work with UNDP and Member States to overcome regional disparities in transportation networks through the
55 facilitation of national framework plans that reduce food insecurity through a reduction in food waste through
56 improvements in food preservation, specifically:
57
- 58 a. Addressing food preservation within all transport networks within Member States to reduce the amount
59 of food waste during transport;
60
- 61 b. Building food storage facilities in line with Chapter 2 of the WFP *Food Storage Manual* in order to
62 standardize the building of food storage facilities in all regions and sub-regions, especially Eastern
63 Europe, Central Africa, Latin America, and West Asia, through public-private-partnerships to increase
64 foreign direct investment (FDI);
65
- 66 4. *Fully supports* collaboration between FAO, UNCTAD, and the World Trade Organization (WTO), and all
67 relevant NGOs, to expand UNCTAD’s BioTrade Initiative to all Member States in order to facilitate market
68 accessibility within small and medium range farmers and agricultural producers, and further reach SDG 2
69 Target 4 of ensuring sustainable food production and strengthening agricultural capacities for climate change
70 adaptation and resilience;
71
- 72 5. *Suggests* FAO collaborate with the Green Climate Fund to sponsor yearly international agricultural forums
73 similar to the AgroForum Mare Balticum in Eastern Europe, in order to facilitate discussions on soil quality,
74 usage, resource efficiency, technological developments, and other sustainable land practices;
75
- 76 6. *Recommends* the further creation of agricultural framework programs similar to the Comprehensive Africa
77 Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), with a general outlay that allows for the smooth adoption and
78 national or regional application by Member States to their specific situation, thereby aiding marginalized
79 farmers in accessing markets by providing necessary infrastructural measures for selling their produce and thus
80 meeting SDGs 2 and 9;
81
- 82 7. *Seeks* to work with the United Nations Educational, Cultural, and Social Organization (UNESCO) to facilitate
83 the creation of a technical and vocational training (TVET) programme focusing on the usage of data collected
84 through FAO’s AQUASTAT programme to improve technical irrigation capacities to enhance water availability
85 for food production;
86
- 87 8. *Further intends* to work collaboratively with Member States to improve water management systems to ensure
88 better water resource management and usage through:
89
- 90 a. Utilization of FAO’s AQUASTAT programme in order to help facilitate topographical surveys on
91 water within Member States and gather effective data on agricultural irrigation systems;
92
- 93 b. Improvements to existing water distribution systems within Member States using the AQUASTAT
94 programme to standardize data collection on national resource usage and aid in the creation of crop
95 irrigation calendars;
96
- 97 c. Implementation of grey water reuse and recycling initiatives within the United Nations’ Human
98 Settlements Program’s Localizing Agenda 21 program.



Code: FAO/1/2

Committee: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Topic: Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices

1 *The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,*
2

3 *Recalling the Monterrey Consensus* that outlined the goal for Member States to give 0.7 percent of their gross
4 national income (GNI) to Official Development Assistance (ODA) and that ODA can be influential in the promotion
5 of sustainable agricultural practices,
6

7 *Realizing* that inclusive investment is essential in the enactment of sustainable agricultural practices and that Foreign
8 Direct Investment (FDI) will empower developing agricultural sectors by utilizing the Agricultural Market
9 Information System (AMIS) to create new options for the global marketplace to invest in rural farmers,
10

11 *Recognizing* the role of institutions within the United Nations (UN) such as the International Fund for Agricultural
12 Development (IFAD), and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in providing global
13 assistance for the sustainable investment of capital into the agricultural sectors of the developing world and policies
14 that empower rural family farmers to participate in sustainable agricultural practices,
15

16 *Calling attention to* the role of institutions within the United Nations such as the IFAD, and the UNIDO in providing
17 global assistance for the sustainable investment of capital into the agricultural sectors of the developing world,
18

19 *Bearing in mind* the effectiveness of programs such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations'
20 (FAO) Innovation Labs which collaborate with smallholder farmers through agricultural technologies to enact
21 conservation practices and methods used from the Ministry of Agriculture staff down through a farmer-to-farmer
22 training model,
23

24 *Emphasizing* the utility of forums for international cooperation between Member States such as the Tokyo
25 International Conference on African Development (TICAD) to create inclusive economic growth by developing
26 sustainable agricultural sectors,
27

28 *Affirming* the Zero Hunger Challenge put forth in the 2012 Conference on Sustainable Development outcome
29 document *The Future We Want* which reaffirmed the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritional food
30 while considering that climate change will challenge that right,
31

32 *Noting* the precedent of the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) to establish the
33 connection between the availability of clean water and the success of rural agriculture, which presents sustainable
34 practice options to farmers who would not otherwise have the economic ability to participate,
35

36 *Acknowledging* the need for further engagement of stakeholders in development efforts to ensure sustainable
37 agricultural development and make it consistent with the Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy (SADS)
38 2030,
39

40 *Affirming* the *Rome Declaration on Nutrition* (2014) to introduce fiber, mineral, and vitamin dense staple superfood
41 to countries outside of Europe allowing several Member States to achieve nutritional security inexpensively,
42

43 *Fully aware* of the significance of women in rural areas and the productivity-reducing constraints that reduce
44 productivity women face while also realizing the benefits for women from agricultural educators such as Soil for
45 Life that promotes sustainable and low cost food production methods and joint programs between relative
46 stakeholders,
47

- 48 1. *Calls Upon* Member States to uphold their contribution of 0.7% of their GNI to ODA that will go toward
49 assisting Member State’s agricultural sectors to create inclusive opportunities for the adoption of alternative
50 sustainable agricultural practices;
51
- 52 2. *Encourages* the promotion of economic benefit through FDI by utilizing AMIS to collect and analyze
53 agricultural data to create sources for networking amongst platforms for both developed and developing regions
54 to connect developing Member States’ agricultural sectors with financial sources in the private sector;
55
- 56 3. *Emphasizes* on the importance of facilitating investment in sustainable agriculture in rural and poverty-stricken
57 areas where the expansion of agricultural industries will provide many benefits to the people by:
58
- 59 a. Promoting investments for a greater access to markets;
 - 60
 - 61 b. Increasing capital flow to promote greater economic freedom which will allow for the creation of new
62 agricultural businesses helping break the cycle of poverty;
 - 63
 - 64 c. Promoting policies that attract investment;
 - 65
 - 66 d. Collaborating with the FAO to help countries shape poverty reduction policies;
 - 67
 - 68 e. Improving family farmers’ participation in decision making;
 - 69
 - 70 f. Increasing their access to resources, financial services, and access to technology;
 - 71
- 72 4. *Urges* Member States to continue work with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to provide capacity
73 building measures such as assistance in developing environmental protection legislation in order to help
74 Member States to implement Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) in order to promote economic growth in the
75 agricultural sector by investing in sustainable agricultural projects in developing regions;
76
- 77 5. *Encourages* collaboration between FAO Innovation Labs and NGOs to increase crop production and support
78 smallholder farmers by:
79
- 80 a. Advocating for national policies that benefit smallholder farmers;
 - 81
 - 82 b. Promoting practices based on conservation agriculture;
 - 83
 - 84 c. Maintaining healthy, functioning agricultural ecosystems rich in biodiversity;
 - 85
 - 86 d. Sharing information openly with Member States;
 - 87
 - 88 e. Improving market information systems;
 - 89
 - 90 f. Strengthening farmers’ associations;
 - 91
 - 92 g. Improving soil fertility and upgrading storage facilities;
 - 93
 - 94 h. Expanding access to credit for farmers and small suppliers;
 - 95
- 96 6. *Further invites* Member States to utilize country specific programs that focus on giving governments the
97 capacity to give assistance to smallholder farmers by creating models, giving financial assistance, providing
98 agricultural inputs, and creating educational programs in order to help implement agricultural practices;
99
- 100 7. *Seeks* to contribute to the implementation of the progressive replacement of conventional agricultural practices
101 with sustainable alternatives such as Climate Smart Agriculture practices (CSA), sustainable intensification, and
102 integrated aeration techniques through regional strategies established by regional bodies such as the African
103 Union as recommended by the World Bank Agricultural Country Brief Reports for farmers and small suppliers;

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8. *Considers* to adapt and re-implement UNW-DPC to improve management of water with guidance from the SDGs in order to prevent the spread of disease and create sources of clean water for crops and livestock;
 9. *Seeks* to implement programs focusing on sustainable agricultural activities which can deliver positive nutrition outcomes with a focus on:
 - a. Food production for household consumption;
 - b. Income oriented production to attain a higher standard of living;
 - c. Create a fair market for the consumption of nutritional food and the livelihood of producers;
 10. *Endorses* the empowerment of women in order to promote their involvement in sustainable agricultural practices by utilizing the UN Joint Programme between the FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP), IFAD, and UN Women to:
 - a. Improve women's access to hired labor, job, and educational opportunities;
 - b. Enhance women's access to tools, equipment, improved seeds, and high quality fertilizers;
 - c. Facilitate women's access to and effective participation in markets;
 - d. Provide market services through information and communications technology;
 - e. Strengthen women's land rights.



Code: FAO/1/3

Committee: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Topic: Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices

1 *The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,*

2
3 *Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations (1945) and recognizing the sovereignty of all Member*
4 *States as stated in Article 2 Clause 1,*

5
6 *Taking into consideration Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): SDG 2, Zero Hunger, SGD 6, Clean Water and*
7 *Sanitation, SDG 8, Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 11, Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12,*
8 *Responsible Consumption and Production, and SDG 13, Climate Action, regarding the eradication of hunger, the*
9 *achievement of sustainable economic growth, and the need for innovative agricultural systems, with regards to the*
10 *international water crisis,*

11
12 *Acknowledging General Assembly resolution, 72/238 on “Agriculture development, food security, and nutrition”*
13 *(2018), as agriculture plays a vital role in addressing the needs of global citizens and is strictly linked to poverty*
14 *elimination, especially in developing countries,*

15
16 *Referring to the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (SAI*
17 *Platform), which provides a focus on the protection of natural resources through implementing sustainable*
18 *agricultural practices among farmers, members of local communities, and consumers,*

19
20 *Supporting fully the Global Environment Outreach Centre (GEOC) and the United Nations University Institute for*
21 *the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) in order to engage youth in research and capacity development to*
22 *attain a sustainable future,*

23
24 *Recognizing that hydroponics, a system that uses mineral nutrients in a water solvent, aquaponics, a small-scale*
25 *system that combines aquaculture and hydroponics, and aeroponics, a system that uses a mist environment instead of*
26 *soil, as sustainable agricultural systems when ample water is present,*

27
28 *Further recognizing the use of Warka Water Towers as a low-cost alternative for rural communities in arid and*
29 *semi-arid areas, which collects potable water from the air,*

30
31 *Believing in the work of programs such as the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and FAO’s Globally*
32 *Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) highlighting the importance of culture by using traditional*
33 *farming techniques and knowledge of the land by consulting local farmers as sources of enrichment for humankind,*

34
35 *Stresses its desire to expand the Farmer Field School (FFS) program, which reaches over 90 Member States and*
36 *promotes the development of sustainable agricultural practices through innovative field based and peer learning*
37 *experiences by analyzing the specific crop harvest cycle,*

38
39 *Calling attention to the need for sustainable agricultural practices, the Alternative Development for Sustainable*
40 *Agriculture (ADSA) program to ensure the environmental sustainability and social acceptability of crops to be*
41 *selected for profitable cultivation in regions,*

42
43 *Fully aware of the need to establish national programs, similar to Brazil’s Low-Carbon Agriculture (ABC) Plan and*
44 *National Policy on Agroecology and Organic Production, that assist rural farmers in order to reduce greenhouse gas*
45 *emissions within agricultural production while increasing yields and providing food security,*

46
47 *Noting with satisfaction the 1996 and 2002 World Food Summits, which integrated sustainable agriculture practices*
48 *and improved endeavors to alleviate food insecurity through the evaluation of pre-existing conditions of agricultural*
49 *systems, farming methods, and climate change mitigation strategies,*

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Underlining increased partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector, specifically with regard to the United Nations Global Compact to further encourage coordination between the UN and the private sector through six agricultural business principles ranging from environmental protection to sharing the best practices and technology,

Strongly emphasizes the implementation of sustainable agricultural practices, such as eco-friendly water usage including drip irrigation, a form of micro-irrigation that minimizes evaporation and saves water and nutrients, and greywater, crop rotation, and traditional and innovative forms of pest management, to help sustain and improve existing agricultural lands,

1. *Establishes* the P.U.R.E Project: Promoting Urban and Rural Education, to:
 - a. Promote the innovation and dispersion of building-integrated agriculture such as vertical farming as a medium to promote sustainable agriculture that uses 95 percent less water and eradicates the use of harmful pesticides that contributes to climate change;
 - b. Encourage the implementation of terrace farming on sloped areas to curb soil erosion in rural areas and rooftop gardens as a form of building-integrated agriculture in order to promote sustainable agriculture in urban areas as a source of food security and public engagement within the agricultural sector;
 - c. Support the creation of public markets that sell vertical farming produce, in order to promote sustainable economic growth within communities;
 - d. Advise financial literacy education among small-scale farmers, ensuring full agency to achieve their financial goals through workshops designed to promote sustainable agricultural practices that are profitable in the long term;

2. *Recommends* the further utilization of Alternative Development for Sustainable Agriculture (ADSA) and the establishment of partnerships among experts, farmers, and stakeholders, that would meet yearly in order to:
 - a. Share knowledge between academic professors, private sector leaders and local community members;
 - b. Encourage all Member States to attend the International Conference on Alternative Development (ICAD2) in order to educate all communities on the benefits of Alternative Development and crop sustainability;
 - c. Have stable and long-term investments in agricultural technologies and markets in established Member States;
 - d. Create a platform for pertinent groups within the agricultural field, including, but not limited to government officials, farmers, and agriculture experts, by encouraging the creation of summits, conferences, and workshops;

3. *Suggests* Member States repurpose abandoned infrastructure in rural and urban areas to make them suitable for residents to grow, produce, and plant in sustainable vertical farms as well as in terrace farming which will:
 - a. Maximize the use of land in an individual farm in order to maintain agricultural sustainability and prevent financial losses by increasing resiliency of food production;
 - b. Encourage local governments to support communities by issuing tax credits for small scale developers, businesses, and suppliers giving rise to decent work and economic growth;
 - c. Assist in achieving SDG 1 in reducing poverty amongst the urban poor;

- 105 4. *Concurs* with the teaching of vocational skills in sustainable agriculture, training in construction and
106 maintenance of irrigation channels to enable self-reliance, which includes education in pest resistant crops,
107 faster crop yielding seeds, and veterinary services on farm animals such as those provided by Sasakawa Africa
108 Fund for Extension Education;
109
- 110 5. *Intends* to collaborate with the GEF and SAI Platform in order to amplify the global influence of the FFSs, for
111 the facilitation and distribution of knowledge on developing sustainable agricultural practices;
112
- 113 6. *Confirms* the importance of engaging youth in developing sustainable agricultural practices and encourages
114 Member States to enhance research opportunities within post-secondary educational institutions, such as the
115 GEOC, in joint collaboration with the UNU-IAS in order to develop relevant solutions to modern problems and
116 ensure commitment to sustainable agriculture for generations to come;
117
- 118 7. *Strongly advises* regional and local governments to promote and implement sustainable practices, while using
119 new water conservation technologies made possible by:
120
- 121 a. Aquaponics, designed for both large-scale farming in rural areas and small-scale sustainable
122 agriculture in urban areas, as well as:
123
- 124 i. Hydroponics and aeroponics, which encourages sustainable use of soil that would have
125 otherwise created more degradation of the land;
126 ii. The “-ponics” solutions, which focus on being more economically sustainable and inherently
127 more efficient in water and land use;
128
- 129 b. Warka Water Towers, with the capability of supporting sustainable small-scale gardens, utilize water
130 harvested from the atmosphere and collects it for those living in rural communities that face challenges
131 growing their own food and accessing drinkable water;
132
- 133 8. *Expresses its conviction* to implementing and supporting programs that emphasize how traditional knowledge
134 and cultural identity work to maintain landscape, biodiversity, and natural resources, while also providing food
135 and a secure livelihood to local farmers, with acknowledgement of international programs such as GIAHS and
136 encourages local governments to protect, maintain and support traditional practices within Member States;
137
- 138 9. *Recommends* Member States to implement effective national policies that provide financial and educational
139 support to rural and smallholder farmers to establish sustainable agricultural practices, such as no-till farming,
140 restoration of degraded pastures, nitrogen fixation, and recycling of animal waste;
141
- 142 10. *Endorses* multilateral cooperation between Member States and United Nations bodies such as the United
143 Nations Development Programme (UNDP), under their Green Commodities Programme, to achieve sustainable
144 development in agricultural supply chains to reduce environmental impacts;
145
- 146 11. *Promotes* sustainable agricultural practices that preserve the fertility of soil to provide for future generations
147 and the use of adequate affordable agricultural technology through:
148
- 149 a. The use of eco-friendly water usage which includes:
150
- 151 i. Drip-irrigation in arid and semi-arid areas of cultivation;
152 ii. Utilizing grey water to ensure responsible consumption and reduce waste;
153
- 154 b. Crop rotation, which is scientifically proven to produce higher yields, controls pests and weeds without
155 relying on chemical pesticides, and enhances soil fertility without using synthetic fertilizers;
156
- 157 c. The use of traditional and innovative forms of pest management, which is a more effective and reliable
158 method of damage control than pest elimination and avoids risking harmful chemicals, invasive
159 species, or otherwise environmentally harmful practices;
160

- 161 12. *Requests* for the guidance from these agricultural practices and programs in increasing farmer's profitability,
162 including through the following funding bodies:
163
- 164 a. The International Fund for Agricultural Development;
 - 165 b. The UN Donor Joint Trust Fund through the UNDP;
 - 166 c. The FAO through increased voluntary pre-existing and new donor contributions.
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Code: FAO/1/4

Committee: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Topic: Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices

1 *The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations,*
2

3 *Alarmed by* the lack of financial literacy in the agriculture sector and the large population of rural farmers relying on
4 agricultural processes as a means of living,
5

6 *Acknowledging* the potential in natural fertilizer One Baja as an eco-friendly and sustainable fertilizer which furthers
7 the goal of agricultural sustainability, Specifically One Baja is a natural enhancer made of natural ingredients
8 extracted from organic elements, that has been tested in Malaysia and Thailand and has brought positive results in
9 regards of the autonomy of the farmers as well as the quality of the soils and the crops,
10

11 *Recalling* the General Assembly resolution 51/171 (1997) on “Food and sustainable agriculture development,”
12

13 *Further acknowledging* the effects of climate change on populations access to adequate amounts of nutritious foods,
14

15 *Noting with satisfaction* the 1996 and 2002 World Food Summits which integrate sustainability into agricultural
16 practices and improves endeavors to alleviate food insecurity through the evaluation of pre-existing conditions of
17 agricultural systems, farming methods, and climate change mitigation strategies,
18

19 *Expressing* the need for economic education for farmers for them to be aware of how to capitalize their existing and
20 potential incomes, which are currently lacking,
21

22 *Affirming* the work done by Plan International and the advocacy for the rights of women and girls to allow these
23 groups a voice in the development of agriculture to establish farming groups,
24

25 *Emphasizing* the work that the African Fertilizer and Agribusiness Partnership (AFAP) has done to help farmers
26 gain access to fertilizer and the education necessary to use it in a sustainable and eco-friendly manner,
27

- 28 1. *Recommends* Member States to encourage farmers to use eco-friendly and sustainable methods to perpetuate the
29 maintained long-term access to food security through environmental conscious agricultural practices;
30
31 2. *Proposes* that governments encourage the implementation of natural fertilizers, such as but not limited to One
32 Baja, which in the event of positive results should be utilized in order to enhance farmers’ autonomy by
33 reducing the farmers’ reliance on government funding and aid by 70 percent;
34
35 3. *Encourages* farmers to be open to implementing natural and eco-friendly fertilizers, such as but not limited to,
36 ONE Baja, in their local agriculture with the help of their governments by:
37
38 a. Having localized testing areas for the ONE Baja fertilizer selected accordingly to the quality of the soil
39 to evaluate the efficiency of the fertilizer, the quality of the products and the potential outputs;
40
41 b. Employing the help of expert groups equally composed of:
42
43 i. local experts that have expertise in existing agricultural conditions;
44 ii. The High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security and Nutrition;
45

- 46 4. *Requests* guidance from these agricultural practices and programs in increasing farmer's profitability through
47 the help of financial experts to help in capitalizing the body's already existing funding;
48
- 49 5. *Reminding of* the importance of Plan International which strives to integrate women into the agricultural sector,
50 protect children's rights, and provide resources to enhance the sustainability of future generations;
51
- 52 6. *Authorizes* collaboration with AFAP to promote the availability and use of high quality and affordable
53 fertilizers and crop nutrient products for farmers across the globe.



Code: FAO/1/5

Committee: The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations

Topic: Promoting Sustainable Agricultural Practices

1 *The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,*

2
3 *Acknowledging* the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report “Water Pollution from Agriculture: Global
4 Review” (2017),

5
6 *Emphasizing* the importance of transparency and knowledge sharing of agriculture technologies and irrigation
7 systems both on an international scale, similar to the Technical Cooperation Program and on a state level, similar to
8 South African Irrigation Institute (SABI),

9
10 *Recognizing* the importance of the Free Basic Platform, which allows users to gain access to information on topics
11 such as health, education, and agriculture, and the subsequent development of resources such as CropWat to
12 effectively manage agriculture practices,

13
14 *Bearing in mind* that in order to be most useful, data and information systems, which are designed to aid in
15 sustainable decision making, must be widely accessible to Member States, individuals, and private companies that
16 may use them, including consideration of the various operating systems and software platforms used globally,

17
18 *Recognizing* the joint efforts of FAO and United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from
19 Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) in utilizing data and forestry mapping
20 to develop tools focused on forestry conservation as a necessary part of sustainable agricultural development,

21
22 *Emphasizing* the effect of marine ecosystems on the stabilization of the global climate system, as well as the need
23 for conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal 14,

24
25 *Drawing attention* to the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department’s employment of the statistical fishery dataset
26 software, FishStatJ, as well as the modeling analytics program, Fishing Activity Simulation Tool (FAST), as
27 important elements in guiding Member States’ development of sustainable fishing practices,

28
29 *Bearing in mind* the negative impact of land degradation on Member States’ capacity to achieve sustainable self-
30 sufficiency, and the recent establishment of the Land Degradation Neutrality fund (LDN) under the UN Convention
31 to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),

32
33 *Guided by* the FAO’s Decision Support for Scaling up and Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management (DS-
34 SLM) project implemented in 15 Member States across Europe, Asia, and South and Central America and its ability
35 to work with the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technology (WOCAT) Consortium to continue
36 to assist and expand in the promotion of sustainable agriculture development,

37
38 *Calling attention* to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable
39 management of water and sanitation for all,

40
41 *Acknowledging* the work of the FAO initiative, Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) which
42 aims to combine sustainable agriculture and rural development by maintaining the landscape, biodiversity, and
43 groundwater bodies to provide base flow for water systems,

44
45 *Emphasizing* the goals laid out in the *New Urban Agenda III*, developed during the United Nations Conference on
46 Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), regarding the rehabilitation of water resources within
47 urban, peri-urban, and rural settings for the purpose of greater conservation and more sustainable water usage,

48

49 *Guided by the Convention on Biological Diversity* of 1994, which focuses on the preservation of biodiversity and the
50 sustainable use of natural resources,

51

52 *Recalling* the success of the project executed jointly between the FAO and the National Institute for the Child and
53 the Family (INNFA) of Ecuador to introduce Simplified Hydroponics (SH), a method for soilless cultivation of
54 crops that yields higher rates of agricultural production without the need for abundant agricultural or economic
55 resources,

56

57 *Further acknowledging* the work of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) toward the listing of hazardous
58 materials polluting the world's waterways, and that clean water is crucial for human, agricultural development, and
59 environmental development,

60

61 *Appreciating* the educational campaigns developed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural
62 Organization (UNESCO), such as the H2o00oh! Water Project, for the purpose of promoting more widespread water
63 conservation,

64

65 1. *Encourages* better management of water sources that are implemented in agricultural practices, as mentioned in
66 the FAO "Report on Water Pollution from Agriculture" in 2017;

67

68 2. *Recommends* the expansion of the voluntary database, The Technical Cooperation Program, to increase the use
69 of technology regarding sustainable irrigation methods that effectively irrigate crops while conserving water;

70

71 3. *Further Recommends* Member States establish intra-state information sharing programs pertaining to irrigation
72 technology and engineering which will allow engineers, farmers, soil scientists, and crop experts to disseminate
73 knowledge amongst engineers, farmers, and scientists from various areas, similar to South Africa's Irrigation
74 Institute, (SABI);

75

76 4. *Calls for* the Land and Water Development Division of the FAO to improve the existing CropWat software,
77 focusing on the following areas:

78

79 a. Collaboration with technology developers to explore the feasibility of extending the software to other
80 operating systems in order to increase global accessibility;

81

82 b. Further develop the CropWat user-interface in order to allow users to remotely input location data and
83 subsequently view information on the most appropriate crops for the area in which they are planning
84 development;

85

86 c. Encourage the collaboration between FAO and the Free Basics Platform for the purpose of increasing
87 the availability online access to CropWat in rural communities and areas that may otherwise be unable
88 to implement best-practices without access to internet;

89

90 5. *Encourages* increased collaboration between FAO and UN-REDD, in order to develop the availability and
91 quality of data systems that monitor and map deforestation in ways that give due consideration to forests as a
92 sustainable resource and prevents the practice of deforestation by:

93

94 a. Creating a report that assesses the current breadth of information collected by the FAO National Forest
95 Monitoring Systems (NFMS), with a specific emphasis on identifying Member States and land areas
96 that are not currently being monitored;

97

98 b. Developing a plan to implement the current NFMS tools in areas where mapping and inventory does
99 not currently occur;

100

- 101 c. Consolidating the multinational NFMS information into a single accessible data source, in addition to
102 the existing country-specific forums, so that the information is available globally to farmers as well as
103 private organizations in their decision-making process while sourcing crops grown sustainably;
104
- 105 d. Cross-analyze and compare NFMS data with information from the FAOSTAT agricultural production
106 patterns database in order to:
- 107
- 108 i. Identify regions where agricultural development patterns suggest an increased risk, of
109 deforestation;
- 110 ii. Incorporating curricula into the Farmer Field School (FFS) in the identified regions, so as to
111 educate participants on the detriment of deforestation while equipping them with the
112 educational tools to engage in sustainable agricultural development;
113
- 114 6. *Authorizes* the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department to increase the accessibility and usefulness of current data
115 monitoring software in order to provide Member States with the best tools to implement effective policy
116 supporting the conservation of ocean resources and marine life while promoting the use of aquaculture to reduce
117 hunger and contribute to thriving economies sustainably by:
- 118
- 119 a. Creating a report on the current status of the FishStatJ statistical monitoring software as well as the
120 Fishing Activity Simulation Tool (FAST), with emphasis on the compatibility of both programs and
121 the current status of accessibility by Member States and private companies;
122
- 123 b. Formulating a plan to merge FishStatJ and FAST into a singular software program, which will
124 combine the monitoring and interactive features of each system, such that a wider range of data can be
125 incorporated into a forecasting tool to project the impacts of various fishing rates in specific locations
126 on the:
- 127
- 128 i. Local ecosystems;
- 129 ii. Fish stocks;
- 130
- 131 c. Ensure that the platforms supporting the monitoring software accommodate various operating systems
132 so as to facilitate the ability of Member States to implement guidelines based on data and create
133 calendars of allowable, sustainable fishing practices, as well as design limits and incentives that adhere
134 to the sustainably permissible rates that meet the needs of each region;
135
- 136 7. *Confirms* the need to address land degradation and its wider impacts by utilizing the LDN fund and adopting
137 such sustainable practices such as:
- 138
- 139 a. Optimization of soil nutrition through crop rotation;
- 140
- 141 b. Application of alley-cropping and other agroforestry techniques in order to replace unsustainable slash-
142 and-burn agricultural practices, curb soil erosion, and foster resiliency in affected areas;
143
- 144 c. Minimization of agricultural emissions to combat rising sea levels, ocean acidification, and soil
145 salinization;
146
- 147 d. Utilization of the Low Carbon Agriculture Plan (ABC), a credit initiative to provide rural, smallholder,
148 and family farms with low-interest loans to implement sustainable agriculture practices;
149
- 150 8. *Approves* continued expansion of the Decision Support for Mainstreaming and Scaling out Sustainable Land
151 Management (DS-SLM) by:
- 152
- 153 a. Including more Member States in the program;
154

- 155 b. Providing technical assistance in these projects along with World Overview of Conservation
156 Approaches and Technologies (WOCATs);
157
158 c. Highlight sustainable land management and bring these practices into the public focus;
159
160 d. Further standardizing tools and methods for SLM assessment;
161
162 e. Assisting in policy advisement and territorial planning to maximize the productivity of a Member
163 State’s natural resources;
164
- 165 9. *Recommends* the implementation of drip feed irrigation systems to promote sustainable agriculture and to
166 address fresh water scarcity in the following ways by:
167
168 a. Harvesting rainwater collected from water storage tanks through roof systems;
169
170 b. Using cylindrical storage tanks which collect rainwater that filters down into the attached water tank;
171
172 c. Cost effective usage of recycled plastic water bottles as well as other low-cost materials;
173
- 174 10. *Calls upon* Member States to create and support priorities for rural development, agricultural productivity and
175 sustainability for traditional farming networks through the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems
176 (GIAHS), which enables farmers to use vertical irrigation systems and continue the use of gravity-powered
177 brine distribution by:
178
179 a. Encouraging Member States to adopt their own National Hydroelectric Plan to promote the creation of
180 dams as a regulatory tool to aid in satisfying water demands;
181
182 b. Using the management of aquifers, the improvement of water for urban supply, and the investment of
183 public money in R&D activities related to water resource management will enable efficient use of
184 resources;
185
- 186 11. *Expresses its support* of the proliferation of SH systems as a means of achieving self-sufficiency, harvesting
187 nutritionally-dense crops, and successfully cultivating crops, independent of local soil conditions by:
188
189 a. Adoption of Deep Water Culture (DWC) systems in order to maximize crop yields, shorten harvest
190 time, and reduce the resources necessary for the maintenance of local systems;
191
192 b. Expansion of the SH training courses piloted by the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the
193 Caribbean (FAO/RLC) in low-resource communities;
194
195 c. Encourages Member States to consider appointing an international consultant focused on hydroponic
196 vegetable production, as exemplified by the Uruguayan Hydroponics Association (ASUDHI) in
197 partnership with FAO;
198
- 199 12. *Encourages* development of River Basin Management Plans that control groundwater withdrawals and define
200 methodological criteria for groundwater bodies with the building and financing of irrigation systems;
201
- 202 13. *Insists* FAO to conduct more research in collaboration with the UNESCO on the impact of dams on sustainable
203 agricultural practices, with regard to Member States that share the same water sources;
204

205 14. *Further recommends* building on the convention on the prevention of marine pollution by dumping of wastes
206 and other matter by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to ensure that no material that has a
207 negative impact as characterized by the IMO is disposed in water used for sustainable agriculture.