



Documentation of the work of the
General Assembly Second Committee (GA2) NMUN
simulation*



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General Assembly Second Committee (GA2)

Committee Staff

Director	Emma Bott
Assistant Director	Diamond James
Chair	Synne Iversen Kverndal

Agenda

1. Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2. Promotion of Sustainable Tourism

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
GA2/1/1	Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	113 in favor, 9 against, 24 abstentions
GA2/1/2	Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	Adopted without a vote
GA2/1/3	Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	128 in favor, 5 against, 13 abstentions
GA2/1/4	Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	93 in favor, 27 against, 26 abstentions
GA2/1/5	Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for	120 in favor, 13 against, 13 abstentions

	Sustainable Development	
GA2/1/6	Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	127 in favor, 8 against, 11 abstentions
GA2/1/7	Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	121 in favor, 8 against, 17 abstentions
GA2/1/8	Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	126 in favor, 2 against, 18 abstentions
GA2/1/9	Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	142 in favor, 4 against

Summary Report for the General Assembly Second Committee

The General Assembly Second Committee held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

1. Promotion of Sustainable Tourism
2. Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The session was attended by representatives of (159) Member States and (1) Observer.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of 2, 1, beginning discussion on the topic of “Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of 10 proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics including education, gender and population equality, climate change, economic development, resource protection and preservation, sustainability, security, and tourism. The atmosphere of the committee through Monday and Tuesday was that of excitement and high energy. The committee maintained an engaged debate with a friendly and welcoming tone.

On Wednesday, nine draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, one of which had amendments. The committee adopted nine resolutions following voting procedure, one of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including technology, infrastructure, tourism, international collaboration, agriculture, gender equality, culture, food security. The committee engaged in fruitful discussion throughout the week, being open to collaboration and hearing differing opinions. There were a handful of working groups that merged their work to create cohesive resolutions with great attention to detail and well thought out action plans.



Code: GA2/1/1

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Alarmed by the continued persistence of poverty, particularly extreme poverty, in rural areas,

Reiterating the United Nations's determination to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, to ensure the ability of all to fulfill their human potential,

Recognizing the importance of revitalizing rural economies; considering that many rural areas possess resources with huge potential to drive economic progress,

Reaffirming our steadfast commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Clean Water & Sanitation), SDG 8 (Sustained Economic Growth & Economic Productivity), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption & Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action),

Underscoring our particular dedication to the achievement of SDG Target 1.1: "the eradication of extreme poverty in rural areas," and SDG Target 8.5: "the creation of sustainable livelihoods in rural areas,"

Fully aware that COVID-19 has impacted the world's population tremendously in recent years, reversing many past efforts to meet the 2030 SDG deadline to halve poverty levels,

Further underscoring the findings of the *United Nations Conference on the Human Environment* (1972), the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (1992), and *Agenda 21* (1992) in highlighting the necessity of sustainable development in the United Nations's efforts to eradicate rural poverty,

Fully believing in the mission established by General Assembly (GA) Resolution 78/165, "Eradication of rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and Resolutions 73/244 and 76/219 "Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," highlighting the need for concrete policies and actions to address the challenges of rural poverty,

Acknowledging the importance of supporting nongovernmental actors within rural communities for local economic development and poverty reduction, such as the International Network for Agricultural and Rural Training (FAR),

Encouraged by models of existing rural poverty reduction programs, in particular those efforts combining support from national and regional programs, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and other international organizations that seek to break intergenerational cycles of poverty,

Further acknowledging the United Nations *Decade of Family Farming*, the establishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) 100 Billion USD Goal for climate action in developing countries,

Guided by the principles of the Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) International Network, which seeks to extend climate change initiatives and sustainability for rural communities,

Drawing attention to the fact that women and children are inordinately impacted by rural poverty, as stated in GA Resolution 76/140 “Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas,” GA Resolution 78/473 “Advancement of women,” the 2023 Report of the Secretary-General 76/269 “Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas,” the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women for Youth* (CEDAW) (1979), CEDAW General Recommendation C/GC/37 “on gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction in a changing climate” (2018), and the *International Labour Organization (ILO) Mandate on Gender Equality* (GEDI) (1995),

Recalling GA Resolution 73/342 “International Labour Organization Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work,” to highlight the problem of employment recognition in informal sectors, particularly in rural areas,

Bearing in mind GA Resolution 78/198 “The right to food,” stressing the urgency of providing aid to food-insecure rural communities, as well as the findings of the UN World Social Report 2021 “Reconsidering Rural Development,” the initiatives of the World Food Programme (WFP) in rural areas, which aim to eradicate food insecurity and hunger worldwide,

Acknowledging the need for universal quality education to provide alternative career paths outside of the agricultural sector in rural areas,

Noting the high rates of youth relocation from rural areas to urban areas due to the lack of economic opportunity and high rates of poverty, slowing the economic growth of rural areas,

Acknowledging the need for the development of sustainable tourism in rural communities to provide employment, economic opportunity, and environmental protection,

Noting with deep concern that, according to the Human Development Report Office, 47.5 percent of the population of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) suffers from multidimensional poverty,

Profoundly hopeful for continued international unity to achieve the aims of global development detailed in GA Resolution 66/288 “The future we want,”

1. *Calls for* the continued support of United Nations programs targeting the reduction of poverty in rural areas, in particular those operated by the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), and the FAO;
2. *Expresses its hope* for the development of all rural regions throughout the world, in particular those most affected by the burden of extreme poverty, specifically within the domains of technology, information, and transportation infrastructure to create greater access to jobs and education per the 2023 UN publication, *Broadband Infrastructure Investment Key for Least Developed Countries to Reap Economic Gains*;
3. *Advocates for* measures that improve the rate and capacity of sustainable development in communities suffering widespread rural poverty; measures poised to significantly alleviate obstacles to sustainable development affecting countries on a global scale by:
 - a. Reducing trade barriers that limit the sustainable development growth of specific nations, including but not limited to the use of tariff increases;

- b. Improving access to global markets for rural producers, allowing rural communities to play a greater role economically and connecting the agricultural market at a local scale to national and international trade routes;
 - c. Prioritizing investment in technological advancements that are accessible to rural communities and individuals with limited financial capacities, ensuring equal opportunity of economic growth to rural communities;
 - d. Enhancing access to quality healthcare services to enhance the well-being of rural populations;
 - e. Ensuring access to quality education, as this is a primary obstacle to individuals in rural communities escaping intergenerational cycles of poverty and the primary focus of SDG 4;
 - f. Investing in infrastructure advancements that connect rural areas to larger cities, such as roads and bridges, which facilitate economic growth and expand employment opportunities for individuals living in rural settings;
4. *Requests* that Member States increase international cooperation geared towards recommendations regarding the gender-related impacts of climate disasters per CEDAW/C/GC/37;
5. *Reiterates* the need for further training for farmers to ensure sustainable methods of growing climate resilient crops and supports the diversification of sustainable farming techniques with an emphasis on the production of plant-based proteins for the promotion of health and sustainability efforts, per the 2023 UNDP publication *Working with Power in Multi-Stakeholder Processes*;
6. *Encourages* Member States with the resources to provide funding projects working to eradicate rural poverty worldwide within the UN context, as determined by UNDESA, to recognize their special responsibility to support international efforts against rural poverty;
7. *Encourages* the implementation of technologies and methods detailed in the UN World Social Report 2021 *Reconsidering Rural Development*, in alignment with guidelines set forth by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) including:
 - a. The creation of sustainable irrigation practices, such as improved harvesting systems, and drip irrigation techniques, to enhance crop maximization and agricultural productivity in rural areas that may have limited space for crop growth;
 - b. Crop yield maximization, such as increasing nitrate levels in soil, will promote augmented plant growth to further contribute to successful harvesting in rural areas;
 - c. Alleviation of agricultural waste production, which currently places significant strain on local water systems such as rivers and aquifers and reduces biodiversity, weakening the resilience of local ecosystems;
 - d. Limiting and ending the usage of microbial pest controls that threaten the security and well-being of rural biodiversity and food production;

8. *Calls for* creating Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs, including those specified for women residing in rural areas, and the continued support of the UNCDF in order to sustain and promote the creation of small and medium enterprises in areas experiencing rural poverty in cooperation with the private sector, civil society organizations, and educational institutions to ensure that people living in rural communities have educational and economic opportunities to obtain the necessary skill sets and opportunities to participate in formal labor markets, such as, but not limited to, access to government and social services, and business management education, and rural area business development support;
9. *Requests that* Member States implement comprehensive agricultural policies that prioritize the promotion of self-sufficient farming practices to enhance food security and alleviate rural poverty;
10. *Encourages* the expansion of the CARE International Network to alleviate the economic and financial hardships faced by those in rural communities;
11. *Requests that* the World Bank and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) pilot expanded programs based on successful examples of anti-poverty programs that receive international support, in particular:
 - a. The Citizenship by Investment program of Dominica, as these investments allow construction of rural homes, strengthening rural economies and development;
 - b. The Takaful and Karama program of Egypt, with the support of the World Bank, which provides direct support to those in poor rural communities, in particular rural women, as a form of social safety net;
 - c. Component B in Uzbekistan coordinated and supported by the UNDP, which aims to create favorable living conditions for rural residents and ensure their access to basic infrastructure, and socio-economic services including access to health and education;
 - d. The Equal Pay International Coalition's (EPIC) programs and similar projects directed toward governmental support of local companies, employers, employees, workers' organizations, and other stakeholders to take concrete strides in reducing the gender pay gap;
12. *Encourages* the global adoption of programs through the World Bank and UNDP in the model of the aforementioned piloting efforts that promote the empowerment of women and their financial stability;
13. *Advocates* for global cooperation to develop and promote CSA practices and policies for rural family farms in developing countries, under the framework of the *United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028)* through enhancing the collaboration of FAO and IFAD in implementing CSA education and technical training programs, focusing on sustainable agriculture practices and climate change adaptation techniques which would contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger);
14. *Stresses the fact that* decreasing rural poverty will significantly advance progress towards the SDGs by improving:
 - a. Children's education, through increasing the access of those in rural areas to the reliable and efficient provision of social services and improving rural connectivity;

- b. Healthcare, by providing member states with the ability to bring better medical equipment and medicines to improve rural healthcare;
 - c. The economic empowerment of rural women, by increasing market connectivity and working opportunities outside the home and the agricultural sector, connecting those suffering from rural poverty with employment opportunities in the formal labor market;
 - d. The ability individuals in of rural areas to engage with world markets, primarily through greater access to trade, transportation, and online services;
15. *Advocates* for the responsible stewardship of water resources per SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), in the view that reliable access to clean water will enable those living in situations of rural poverty to better maintain:
- a. Well-established hygiene practices such as handwashing, dishwashing, and general cleanliness leading to the overall reduction of illness and the ensuing improvement of economic outcomes such as working productivity, the reduction of healthcare costs, and standard of living;
 - b. The effective functioning of small and medium enterprises in rural areas, with safe and reliable water access, which improves the ability of these enterprises and their employees to more effectively operate safe and clean places of work, improving employee and customer health, creating safer and more plentiful food production within the agricultural sector, allowing better environmental management, and job creation;
16. *Encourages* the implementation of organic agriculture to improve the reduction of poverty through the framework of the *United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028)* enhancing the collaboration of FAO and IFAD in implementing Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) education and technical training programs directed towards:
- a. The amelioration of food insecurity by implementing programs that mirror the structure of the aforementioned successful UN, FAO, and IFAD initiatives directed towards rural communities;
 - b. The improvement of existing social, cultural, and environmental benefits for people living in rural poverty, such that all people can share the sustainable development benefits detailed in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - c. The further creation of local UN jobs to eradicate rural poverty by contributing to local economic development and raising average household incomes in communities suffering from widespread rural poverty;
17. *Reiterates* that tourism is relevant to reducing poverty in rural areas by expanding opportunities for the creation of new jobs, increasing access to sustainable tourism, and allowing citizens to travel while improving and respecting some of the SDG;
18. *Requests* the expansion of knowledge sharing on the subject of rural development and poverty, as lack of education and knowledge transfer on development is a significant barrier to eradicating rural poverty, carried out by:

- a. Encouraging Member States to expand FAR, which will greatly benefit particular economic and agricultural niches by expanding access to agricultural techniques, training, and expertise;
 - b. Developing more structured and accessible frameworks to collect data and compile voluntary national reviews, which provide invaluable insight for sustainable economic development;
 - c. Focusing on regional development within countries, taking into account local needs in addition to country-wide priorities, particularly in rural regions;
19. *Invites* Member States to enhance joint efforts with the ILO in solving the problem of informal employment by implementing labor market reforms, such as the recognition of small-scale fisheries and agriculture producers, and ensuring their access to global markets;
20. *Suggests* the establishment of a Voluntary Dialogue Group for Poverty Reduction and Rural Development (PRRD), consisting of Member States and non-governmental organizations and led by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), the UN Office for Partnerships, and funded by the World Bank, to join the UN initiatives and efficiently coordinate the implementation of the UN development programs operating at the national and ground level within Member States, mediate between governments and the academic and private sector to ensure up-to-date insights on rural poverty reduction, with following goals:
- a. This PRRD shall aim to coordinate, promote, and support projects in rural development, infrastructure enhancement, and educational system improvements, as well as enable international exchanges through pooled resources and shared expertise under the UNDG's supervision;
 - b. A subsidiary roundtable group be created within the PRRD for fostering conservation efforts in protected areas including the Agencies of Protected Areas of Member States, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and other environmental non-governmental organizations to share knowledge, skills, and technological expertise, with a special focus on harnessing the economic prowess of natural resources embedded in the rural areas as they relate to the reduction of rural poverty;
 - c. Member States participating in the PRRD are encouraged to partner with the World Bank and other financial institutions for the PRRD's funding, utilizing established channels to foster shared responsibility and expedite impact on rural development;
 - d. Educational programs and infrastructure development, especially regarding water resources, will be incorporated into the PRRD's projects, acknowledging that education is a fundamental driver of development and empowerment in rural areas;
 - e. Educational and infrastructure projects of the PRRD will be designed to highlight the importance of using existing programs to enhance access to safe and clean water, vital for rural empowerment and development;
 - f. Member States and organizations participating in the PRRD will work in collaboration with the World Bank, other development banks, and international funds, to contribute financially to the initiatives of the PRRD, emphasizing the importance of shared

responsibility and international solidarity in addressing rural poverty and development challenges through fiscal consolidation and other development programs;

- g. The leveraging of existing funds through the PRRD be entrusted to the World Bank to efficiently address rural development and education improvements;
21. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council, and regional organizations, and to pursue other public-private partnerships (PPPs), such as the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture, to share sustainable and effective agricultural practices and technologies, such as prioritizing the implementation of drought-resistant crops and genetically modified organism (GMO) seeds;
 22. *Proposes* that the International Finance Corporation (IFC) partner with Member States to suggest strategies and approaches to establish improved healthcare coverage and provide health insurance for people living under the poverty line in rural areas as a part of a social insurance scheme;
 23. *Requests* that Member States work towards the creation or improvement of incentives to reduce youth's migration out of rural areas by:
 - a. Focusing educational scholarships on institutions located in rural areas;
 - b. Creating societal environments supportive of youth development and needs by strengthening linkages with government and NGOs or partnership and collaborative approach to youth work.



Code: GA2/1/2

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Reaffirming Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* in its statement that free, quality education is a fundamental human right and that many nations are unable to provide this fundamental human right in rural areas,

Stressing the imperativeness of recognizing universal and workers' rights as delineated by General Assembly (GA) Resolution 39/12,

Recalling the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1 on eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions and SDG 2 on ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture,

Noting with zest the importance of SDG 8, which promotes the importance of decent work and economic growth in the eradication of poverty,

Stressing the importance of national and global security in the eradication of rural poverty to implement the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,

Deploing the lack of consensus on the definition of rural areas and rural poverty as stressed in the 2022 Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative report on Measuring Rural Poverty with a Multidimensional Approach: The Rural Multidimensional Poverty Index,

Bearing in mind that more than 80 percent of the world's extremely impoverished reside in rural areas, according to the UN Secretary-General report A/78/238 *Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,

Noting with concern that if current patterns persist, 342.4 million women and girls will be living on less than \$2.15 per day by 2030 as per the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women),

Fully aware that 52 percent of employed people in Sub-Saharan Africa are active in agriculture but that the agriculture productivity per worker rate is the lowest in the continent according to the World Bank,

Concerned about the 675 million people still living without access to electricity, with 4 in 5 of them being in the Sub-Saharan region,

Recalling the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit announced by the Secretary-General that aimed to deliver progress on all 17 SDGs through a food system approach,

Recalling the 2021 Progress Report on the follow-up to the Second International Conference of Nutrition (ICN2), including implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (CFS 2021/49/6) from the Committee on World Food Security (CFS),

Keeping in mind the FAO Guidelines on defining rural areas and compiling indicators for development policy and the FAO report *Measuring Rural Poverty with a Multidimensional Approach: The Rural Multidimensional Poverty Index*,

Understanding that the FAO provides data showing that the majority of farmers have limited access to the technologies and practices needed for sustainable and efficient agricultural production,

Emphasizing that the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) shows the importance of microinsurance and microloans in providing financial assistance to rural populations, aiding in poverty alleviation efforts, and promoting sustainable agriculture,

Aware of the FAO report *Education for rural population and food security* (2007) which shows a lack of literacy among technological implementations in accordance with rural farmers to have contact with experts within that field,

Emphasizing the role of research and technology as a measure to eradicate rural poverty in all forms and dimensions for the implementation of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, highlighting indicator for SDG 1 No poverty, 1.1.1 “proportion of the population living below the international poverty line by sex, age, employment status and geographic location (urban/rural)” in the UN SDG framework,

Recalling the tenets adopted in GA Resolution 69/213, which recognizes the paramountcy of sustainable transportation and transportation corridors in improving the social welfare of people,

Bearing in mind its resolution 69/313 on the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which offers a framework for financing the three dimensions of sustainable development and where developed Member States accepted the Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitments to allocate 0.7 percent of their GNIs to extend aid to developing and Least Developed Countries (LDCs),

Recognizing the importance of national and international security as a tool to eradicating rural poverty in line with the provisions of SDG 16 which promotes peace, justice, and strong institutions,

Notes deep regret the fact that employment is decreasing in many Member States among rural communities due to the conversion of farmlands into other uses,

Noting the need for changes to increase sustainability within the agricultural field due to the risk posed by climate change which exacerbates poverty as detailed by the FAO Strategy on Climate Change 2022–2031, endorsed by the 170th Session of the FAO Council, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that assisted in the creation of the Green Climate Fund in order to channel financial resources to developing countries for adaptation measures and implementation of climate change mitigation,

Welcoming the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the implementation of the Making Cities Resilient 2030 Campaign that offers a 3-stage roadmap to building resilience at the local level,

Reiterating the United Nation Office for Disaster Risk Reduction’s (UNDRR) support in implementing the Doha Programme of Action in providing the most vulnerable countries with the assistance they need to drive socio-economic and environmental development, endorsed for the decade 2022-2031 on 1 April 2022 (resolution 76/258),

Stressing the need for education in agriculture to promote poverty reduction, gender equality, and engage rural communities to enhance innovation,

Recognizing the urgency for every human being to have access to a healthy diet as well as adequate sanitation which specifically affects rural areas of the world and has an impact on agriculture,

Fully aware of the inability to access stable electricity and power the majority of global South citizens with the assistance of the UN and private and public Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs),

Encouraged by the efficiency of the DeRisking Energy Investment (DREI) framework to up-scale private funding in energy services development in many countries,

Recognizing the territorial approach in operationalizing Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in order to direct private investments to concentrated agro-industrial activities,

Taking into account pre-existing flaws within the transportation infrastructure of Africa such as the decrepit condition of the Trans-African Highway,

Reiterating to the FAO's attention to a lack of fruitful production being achieved due to climate, infrastructure, and lack of education,

Conscious of the work of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in providing governments with funds to develop programmes that allow rural communities to overcome poverty,

Welcoming the Opportunities for Youth in Africa (OYA) programme developed by the FAO and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization,

Comprehending the World Bank's Climate Change Action Plan in its emphasis on the necessity of climate-smart agricultural practices regarding the target of minimizing the effects of climate change,

Regretting that despite great strides in developing drought-resistant, flood-resistant, pest-resistant, heat-tolerant, and high-yield grain variants, the infrastructure to produce and process these seeds is still underdeveloped in many Member States, restricting access to these technologies,

Mindful of the importance of institutions of higher education for educational outreach, especially to rural areas in developing Member States that lack robust domestic research industries,

Underlining the importance IFAD's Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (JP RWEE) in promoting gender-sensitive policies within agriculture in select countries to ensure rural women's access to resources,

Concerned by the continued struggle of ranchers in arid developing Member States to participate in developed markets, due in large part to the lack of regulatory means of tracking food products at all stages of production or traceability capacity capable of meeting modern food safety standards,

Welcoming the rapid expansion of Pan-African Banks (PaB) in sub-Saharan Africa which have promoted greater economic integration in sub-Saharan Africa, made the sector more competitive, and expanded the reach of microfinance and electronic banking, while recognizing that such rapid expansion has stretched the supervisory capacity of home and host supervisors,

Recalling the role that intransigence regarding cost of goods (COGS) plays in the economic stagnation of Member States that are financially dependent on cash crops,

1. *Recommends* Member States to establish an international definition and scale for rural poverty levels, besides the current distinction between rural and urban areas that relies only on population size, said definition and scale shall be defined by the following parameters respectively:
 - a. In rural areas, considering the establishment of different levels of rurality, the following indicators shall be contemplated:
 - i. Population density;
 - ii. Population size;
 - iii. Land covered;
 - iv. Accessibility to markets;
 - v. Accessibility to public services;
 - b. Regarding the definition and scale of rural poverty, they shall include at least one of the indicators in the following list, considering it is not restricted only to the ones mentioned below:
 - i. Food security;
 - ii. Deficient access to health, education, clean water, and energy services;
 - iii. Lack of housing and assets;
 - iv. Low pay rate;
 - v. Lack of social protection;
 - vi. Child labor;
 - vii. Credit accessibility;
 - viii. Lack of government and NGO support;
 - ix. Higher risk of climate shock;
2. *Advocates* for the creation of an Agricultural Knowledge and International Technology Exchange (AKITE) open-ended working group overseen by the UNDP comprised of governments, local farmers, experts and private sector leaders from participating Member States, which will aim to debate on the process of rapidly developing and implementing new sustainable technologies and practices tailored to specific regions which will publish a report establishing guidelines;
3. *Recommends* the establishment of a conference agenda within the existing conference of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, which enables Public-Private Partnerships focused on rural development named the UN Conference Agenda on Accessibility of

Rural Technology and Investments in collaboration and fair use of its principles with the UNDP, FAO, and IFAD which would meet biennially to:

- a. Make recommendations and produce guidelines using the findings from Agricultural Knowledge and International Technology Exchange (AKITE);
 - b. Ensure long-term sustainability using organs such as the International Trade Center (ITC) and the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF);
 - c. Act as a more comprehensive forum where Member States can provide and receive methods of new practices in sustainable agriculture;
 - d. Foster collaboration and knowledge exchange and act as a pivotal platform to achieve global efforts towards achieving SDGs and leading to a prosperous future for rural communities worldwide;
 - e. Task the FAO with the labor of developing yearly reports to be shared in the General Assembly second committee to re-evaluate progress in the matter;
 - f. Request the FAO to implement the Rural Multidimensional Poverty Index to understand the multidimensional aspects of rural poverty to better provide a suitable and flexible framework and thus facilitate the implementation of accurate policies;
4. *Recommends* Member States to improve the education initiatives and offers in rural areas in order to grant rural populations an increased chance in the job market due to their acquisition in school level knowledge, done with aid from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) these education systems could include but not be limited to:
- a. Children's education to be carried out and promoted by UNICEF through programs such as "Educate A Child," which aims to bring primary education to those children in difficult-to-reach areas;
 - b. Adult population education, specifically in trade jobs that might allow them to apply for basic entry-level jobs that report income to help them go out of poverty with aid;
 - c. The creation of workshops organized by the United Nations through the FAO to educate people on efficient usage of resources to allow them to experience the following:
 - i. Witness an increase in their income, thus, a more stable economy in rural areas;
 - ii. Be able to use resources effectively and thus reduce waste and reduce the losses that could be caused by them being uneducated;
 - d. UN-Habitat to develop specific education programmes for community leaders to promote engagement in gender discussions about women's access to and ownership of land, to provide them with a vital resource to improve their wellness;
 - e. UNESCO is a technical and vocational program that specializes in developing TVET programmes that enable youth employment and entrepreneurship throughout the international community;

5. *Suggests* Member States to incentivize private banking to grant microfinance consulting and to provide microloans and savings opportunities for rural development projects, especially for vulnerable groups such as women and youth in rural areas in regard to agriculture to enable economic empowerment and entrepreneurship;
6. *Acknowledges* the need for a partnership with the World Bank to provide a fund for a platform to connect rural farmers with experts worldwide regarding technological literacy and issues that the farmers may be facing, connecting these farmers with experts of a similar language background;
7. *Encourages* Member States to educate rural farmers on Climate-Smart agricultural practices as well as sustainable practices through well-researched and decentralized extension services to improve agricultural productivity and resiliency for poverty alleviation under the following principles:
 - a. Protecting native practices and knowledge within teachings and lessons;
 - b. Ensuring gender inclusivity and non-discrimination;
 - c. Expanding technological and financial literacy;
8. *Recommends* that the FAO further assists in the training of farmers in modern and sustainable agricultural techniques, as well as technological literacy that will further increase crop yields, decrease the strain on local environments such as water and soil resources, and reduce time spent in the fields;
9. *Advocates* for all Member States to create programmes that would undertake efforts to instill knowledge of Climate-Smart Agricultural Practices within communities affected by rural poverty through funding from the Green Climate Fund to provide those experiencing rural poverty with the means to sustainably better their economic state;
10. *Encourages* international cooperation between institutions of higher education for agricultural research and educational outreach to expand agricultural knowledge in Member States without a robust domestic research sector;
11. *Calls upon* the International Monetary Fund to create micro-loans for Member States to help in the introduction of smart agriculture into rural areas and specifically targeting the use of effective machinery through the use of electric vehicles as well as solar panels for planting machines in order to:
 - a. Support Member States in climate-smart agriculture to:
 - i. Reduce carbon footprint thus achieving the UN climate goals;
 - ii. Reduce pollution that could negatively affect the plants and cause them to become damaged;
 - b. Recommend the reduction of the use of fuel-powered generators thus increasing the reliance on sunlight and eco-friendly means of power generation;
 - c. Provide the rural youth with the necessary digital tools to develop sustainable agricultural solutions;

12. *Recommends* the creation of the Finance Accessibility Research (FAR) group of experts through the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in order to study and analyze financing accessibility for vulnerable groups in rural populations by the hand of the United Nations Development Programme by:
 - a. Exhorting Member States to propose experts to form part of said group in order for them to be able to start the research and possible recommendations;
 - b. Designating a reviewing session of the General Assembly Second Committee to analyze experts' submissions and accept them in order to form the group that shall meet annually during the month of January in the United Nations Headquarters in New York City under guidance and counseling from the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR);
 - c. Studying the situation of financing aid in rural populations by the group of experts, said group shall release a yearly report with the current situation with a detailed list of each Member State subject to this analysis while making general and specialized recommendations;
 - d. Creating financial education programs by the hand of the UNDP for vulnerable groups specifically women and youth for them to be able to understand the opportunities being opened for them and how to take the route for development;
13. *Encourages* Member States to increase the integration of underdeveloped rural areas to urban districts through investment in transportation corridors, such as roads and railroads, that will facilitate trade and bring interest into once neglected regions by:
 - a. Recommending the use of grants or loans to fund transportation infrastructure in underdeveloped regions for better access to services and markets;
 - b. Stressing the need for the replacement of decrepit and unpaved roads, and the implementation of public transportation and railroad networks for common and commercial use;
 - c. Proposing the construction of accessible airstrips in rural areas, with at least one per regional province;
 - d. Exhorting that electric power serves as a primary mode of fuel for all transportation modes;
 - e. Emphasizing the insistence on conducting yearly or bi-yearly maintenance on any present or prospective transportation infrastructure;
 - f. Advising that international funding for transportation infrastructure be monitored by the Second Committee of the UN General Assembly to prevent misappropriation of funds;
14. *Emphasizes* the need for increased Pan-African Investment in the Trans-African Highway as well as National and Trans-National Railroad Networks to directly connect rural regions with cities, while also interconnecting the continent to further improve interconnectivity, trade, and commercial investments by:

- a. Suggesting the African Union to co-direct the implementation of this Pan-African Network;
 - b. Advising African States and other Member States to designate funding toward constructing and maintaining paved roads on the entirety of the Trans-African Highway by:
 - i. Promoting the use of grants to fund the paving of the Trans-African Highway but recognizing that loans serve as a feasible alternative;
 - ii. Exhorting that funding for the Trans-African Highway be monitored by the African states to prevent misappropriation of funds;
 - c. Encouraging African states to conduct formal deliberation for a Trans-African Railway Network that will facilitate national and trans-national trade and transportation of peoples by:
 - i. Stressing the necessity to rectify complications in establishing a common track gauge for a Trans-African Railway Network;
 - ii. Aiming for African states to appropriate funds toward expanding existing railway infrastructure, especially toward rural districts;
 - iii. Suggesting the use of grants to fund the Trans-African Railway, recognizing that loans serve as a feasible alternative;
 - iv. Asking that funding for the Trans-African Railway be monitored by the African states to prevent misappropriation of funds;
15. *Calls for* the creation of a Global Agribusiness Program (GAP) which aims to open doors for rural entrepreneurs and facilitate economic growth by inviting the private sector;
16. *Suggests* the creation of a new 2026-2030 iteration of the World Bank's Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) to:
- a. Include key performance indicators that measure the progress of the outlined sustainable, resilient, and inclusive strategies in advancing poverty alleviation among rural communities;
 - b. Focus on key action areas such as research, training, and technical assistance to distill best practices on the integration of sustainable agricultural strategies into rural development plans;
 - c. Monitor targets within the SDGs that refer specifically to sustainable agriculture and rural poverty;
17. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with IFAD and FAO to promote climate-smart agriculture through:
- a. Publishing a handbook with best practices for community-based approaches to faster water drip irrigation systems;

- b. Expanding funds targeted for the creation of agroforestry systems;
18. *Calls for* the expansion of the Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women (JP RWEE) Programme financed by the IFAD to include a new agri-tech approach uniquely tailored for rural women without access to labor-saving technologies in order to promote income-generating activities and ensure increased productivity through increased access to resources;
 19. *Recommends* that Member States further develop their traceability capacity in regard to cattle in developing nations to enable agro-pastoral communities to comply with international health regulations and allow them to fully participate in global markets;
 20. *Exhorts* Member States to incentivize PPPs in general education so that when public options are lacking, especially in rural and underserved areas, the non-state sectors move in to guarantee funding for various educational opportunities for vulnerable groups;
 21. *Further Exhorts* Member States to direct attention to investments in water management and storage infrastructure such as rainwater harvesting systems, drip irrigation and water recycling to ensure reliable water supply for agriculture especially in areas prone to drought;
 22. *Encourages* the promotion of sustainable agricultural practices through the IFAD to ensure increased production of grains and agricultural products and environmental protection;
 23. *Strongly endorses* the conduct of research that focuses on the development of high-yielding seeds that are climate resistant;
 24. *Calls for* international financial institutions to provide technical and financial assistance to Member States for the establishment of national counter-cyclical funds designed to save and securely invest financing resources to recover from the environmental challenges exacerbated by climate change, with a focus on building adaptive capacities and implementing sustainable practices;
 25. *Further requests* developed Member States to fulfill their ODA commitments to provide developing countries and LDCs with funding to assist rural populations and alleviate their poor conditions and develop their economies in a sustainable path;
 26. *Emphasizes* the importance of investing in innovation in order to find innovative solutions for the development of agricultural techniques;
 27. *Recommends* expanding the OYA programme to create employment opportunities for young people in agriculture and agribusiness;
 28. *Invites* Member States to use the DREI framework to obtain universal access to sustainable and clean energy services and basic tools in rural regions to foster digital transformation in agriculture of rural areas;
 29. *Calls for* the strengthening of microprudential supervision by Member States hosting Pan-African Banks in order to both ensure the sustainability and continued expansion of microfinance institutions by:
 - a. Minimizing the spread of unlicensed institutions;

- b. Consolidating and enhancing cross-border supervision;
 - c. Broadening regulatory framework to include non-bank activities such as pensions;
 - d. Harmonizing international regulations and supervisory procedures;
 - e. Developing common standards of transparency applicable to all Remittances service providers;
 - f. Ensuring that senders and receivers of remittances are informed in advance on all the relevant elements of the transaction;
30. *Establishes* the creation of the United Nations Buy Local Strategy from 2025 to the end of 2030 in which the UNDP will work in:
- a. Promoting the incorporation of campaigns in national-level strategies aimed to encourage Member States to work and contract with youth and female-headed businesses as to include them in the value-chain;
 - b. Facilitate technical assistance along with local organizations and NGOs to implement labels for certifying the sustainable origin of products to boost its consume and in consequence incentivize the implementation of more sustainable practices;
31. *Recognizes* the importance of agricultural education for farmers, as well as steady electricity and modern infrastructure, for this transformation to be achieved, all nations must be in the driver's seat, and as such, we encourage the attention to food insecurity due to a lack of production rates for a growing population and in partnership with the FAO and IEA, we can reduce poverty in rural areas by creating a sustainable amount of goods:
- a. With these approaches, our countries' economic growth can begin to improve, resulting in the fight against poverty;
 - b. Emphasizes the importance of highlighting each Member States resources, specifically with the involvement of the FAO:
 - i. The FAO of the United Nations can be a partner for local farmers;
 - ii. FAO is currently working to make Africa's agrifood systems more efficient, inclusive, and sustainable;
 - iii. FAO as well supporting Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans Programs;
 - c. Recognizes the need for sustainable and electricity energy with ongoing initiatives:
 - i. The IAEA's Energy Transition Plan highlights the lack of access to reliable electricity and power;
 - ii. It achieves the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement by collaborating with the corporate and public sectors within the UN and NGOs;

32. *Encourages* Member States to prioritize investments in rural infrastructure, including irrigation systems, storage facilities, and transportation networks, to facilitate the efficient distribution of food and agricultural resources to vulnerable populations, with technical assistance and expertise provided by FAO, IFAD, and WFP where necessary;
33. *Further invites* FAO to collaborate with other relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector, to leverage additional resources, expertise, and innovative solutions to address the complex challenges of food insecurity and malnutrition in rural areas effectively;
34. *Strongly recommends* establishing a new Rural Resilience and Prosperity Fund (RRPF) within the UNDP system that will be dedicated to supporting targeted development projects in high-risk rural areas, fostering self-reliance and long-term prosperity;
35. *Calls upon* Member States to remember the important roles of research and technological innovations in the promotion of economic and social development as adopted by the UN General Assembly on 22 September 2010 as a tool to eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 agenda through:
 - a. Highlighting the need for Member States to invest in the construction of infrastructures that are resistant to climate and natural disasters such as earthquakes, typhoons, and floods to ensure the security of labor and stable economic systems;
 - b. Stressing the need for Member States to adopt domestic approaches to the achievement of sustainable agriculture and increased agricultural production that are informed by data obtained from adequate research and the utilization of technology;
36. *Stringently requests* Member States to further reaffirm their commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and their commitment to safeguarding aforesaid rights in rural areas, striving for protections including, though not limited to, freedom from discrimination, false incrimination, dereliction, uncompensated expropriation, and any kind of unjustified prosecution;
37. *Underlines* the paramount importance of Member States to issue robust regulations that protect workers' rights, including, though not limited to, the prohibition of forced, bonded, or compulsory labor, child labor, unjust compensation for labor, harassment of all kinds, and any toleration of unhealthy or dangerous working conditions, especially for rural workers that are liable to the insufficient enforcement of such labor laws;
38. *Calls upon* Member States to recognize the importance of national and international security of states as addressed by Sustainable Development Goal #16, which promotes peace, justice, and strong institutions for the eradication of rural poverty by:
 - a. Addressing concerns of national security vulnerabilities in rural areas, such as diminished potency of central governments, impunity of inimical agents, and volatile ethnic and religious jingoism;
 - b. Acknowledging the dire implications that these aforesaid factors incite in predominantly rural areas, such as the heightened risk of militant insurgencies, terroristic raids, and foreign incursions;

- c. Emphasizes the need of Member States to provide security within rural regions through organized and peaceful means by ensuring the provision of quality, impartial education, the de-marginalization of religious and native groups, and the establishment of domestic policies that encourage civil participation for the youth;
- 39. *Implores* Member States who frequently interact in the global crop market to devise strategies that enhance flexibility with the COGS proposed by developing countries to stabilize markets while also protecting farmers and consumers from price volatility and concomitant diminution in value;
- 40. *Recognizes* the need for the redevelopment of microfinance programs with the help of the Fund for Gender Equality financing by the UN Women to allow for women living in rural areas to economically benefit from lending by:
 - a. Appointing more women to microfinance institution leadership positions to fight social discrimination;
 - b. Encouraging financial literacy education to women in developing countries seeking financial services and financial knowledge;
 - c. Partnering with NGOs to give assistance to women looking to qualify for credit and savings, which allows for business creation and investment activities;
- 41. *Suggests* the implementation of a program under the UNDP for Community-Driven Advancements for Resources, Empowerment and Skill-Building (CARES) as a way to encourage rural communities to develop entrepreneurial skills and spirit which will:
 - a. Let them identify and communicate their own needs and the needs of their communities to the UNDP through new communication channels;
 - b. Uplift communities by involving them in the creation of small local projects tailored to the specific and most pressing issues they have to face;
 - c. Encourage rural communities to take charge of projects based on infrastructure as well as resource management as a way to develop new skill sets;
- 42. *Suggests* the creation of a UNDP-led public-relations campaign to advertise CARES, AKITE and GAP to the private sector, NGOs, governments and people living in rural areas as a way to increase participation in these programs.



Code: GA2/1/3

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Underlining the intersection between peacebuilding and sustainable development as mentioned in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,

Guided by the all-important principle of ending all forms of discrimination as reaffirmed by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 regarding the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

Recalling Article 25.1 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* expresses that everyone, including women, has the right to a standard of living that is healthy and safe, and that every person should have access to housing, food, social services, and security in case of unemployment,

Reaffirming the commitments made about gender equality as outlined in the *Beijing Declaration* of 1995, including the key role women play in rural areas,

Recalling its resolution 76/140 of 16 December 2021 and reaffirming the obligation of all Member States to promote and protect all human rights, and to prevent violence against women in order to facilitate their financial stability, including in conflict-affected areas,

Highlighting the positive results achieved through the Habitat Country Programme implemented by the UN-Habitat which focuses on SDG 1 “leaving no one behind,”

Recognizing the important work accomplished by the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) for the promotion of gender equality and women empowerment, as well as emphasizing the crucial issues addressed as part of the sixty-second session of the CSW,

Acknowledging the outstanding policies advocated by the UN Joint Programme on Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment (JP RWEE), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), seeking to secure women’s livelihoods, rights, and resilience as pertains to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda,

Aware of the potential that the SDG Accelerator services, developed by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), have to establish future projects elevating rural women’s economic status throughout the world,

Profoundly alarmed by the pressing issue of conflicts within Member States and its impacts on women in rural communities, which include high unemployment rates, displacement of families, and rise in gender discrimination,

Expressing concern over the finding from the Global Fund for Women that 80% of domestic workers are women, combined with the increasing reliance on women to perform work of domestic nature, thereby decreasing their access to professional opportunities, leading directly to a rise in poverty levels,

Expressing concern over women not being able to access healthcare and nutrition that could prevent infant and maternal mortality, and expressing concern over Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs),

Cognizant that women are responsible for 60% to 80% of food production in developing states,

Alarmed by the fact that, according to the World Bank, 129 million girls throughout the world do not have access to education, and that a further 97 million women lack access to secondary education,

Taking into account Article 18 of the *Vienna Declaration*, which expresses that the human rights of women and the girl-child are an inalienable, integral, and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Noting that rural women represent a quarter of the international population,

1. *Encourages* the UNDP to expand the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) in order to address the lack of quality and reliable data to improve their statistical analyses, focusing on disposable income by region, state or province disaggregated by gender;
2. *Encourages* discussion concerning the expansion of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR), to codify land tenure for women as a human right, as previously stated by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and UN Women in 2020 in the Handbook on Realizing Women's Rights to Land & Other Productive Resources by:
 - a. Endorsing the call to add a clause under Article 17 specifying women's right to own property— most importantly land;
 - b. Suggesting the expansion of Article 16 to ensure that women have the right to inherit land from their husbands;
3. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to look into the issue of gender inequality in term of land ownership to further the effort to reduce inequality as stated in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Quick Guide to What and How: increasing women's access to land;
4. *Recommends* UNESCO to expand the UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Leadership Programme, alongside the FAO, to specifically form and empower women's leadership in the field of rural agriculture, in order to allow greater access to decision-making positions for women;
5. *Encourages* Member States to provide financial assistance to rural women working in the agriculture field, mirroring the FAO, IFAD, UN Women, and WFPs JP RWEE programs, in order to provide them with employment opportunities, as a means to:
 - a. Diversify women's economic participation and ensure equal access to the job market for every woman, in order to allow women in rural communities to contribute to household income to alleviate poverty;
 - b. Aid women-led households with childcare as a means to allow women to attain paid work, increasing their financial stability as well as encouraging the education of youth;
 - c. Reduce food scarcity and NCDs in rural areas in order to reduce infant and maternal mortality, working hand-in-hand with UN Women to help women in rural communities to achieve financial stability;

6. *Suggests* Member States implement the guidelines established by the Committee on Food Security's Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition to further empower women financially by:
 - a. Developing the capacity for women to access credit from banks or local credit unions with low interest rates;
 - b. Emphasizing micro-credits enabling rural women to pursue small-scale economic activities to lift themselves out of poverty;
7. *Encourages* the UNDP to build the *Girl Boss in Business Project* (GBBP) as part of the already existent *SDG Accelerator program* to implement women-friendly business incubators for women in rural regions so they can engage in entrepreneurial activities, suggesting that this initiative:
 - a. Includes private-public partnerships with universities, financial institutions, local and international businesses and NGOs;
 - b. Includes a mentorship program that provides financial literacy tutoring programs, business planning, network development skills, and connecting women to local transport agencies;
 - c. Be adapted to the specific local communities where the projects are implemented:
 - i. Adhering to the specific needs of the local economy and the political climate;
 - ii. Considering the regional and geographic characteristics of the already established businesses and connecting female entrepreneurs through forums;
 - iii. Fostering local support by encouraging Member States to prioritize buying products made by their local communities;
 - iv. Using labels that state the origin of the product in order to promote women's work in the marketplace, which would lead to better recognition and higher wages for women;
 - d. Seeks supervision from the CSW to report the data outcomes of the project;
 - e. Offer scholarships to women committed to participating in the GBBP with the recommendation of educational mentors in partnership with local institutions to pursue their path into higher education:
 - i. Scholarships will be available depending on regional institutional financial ability;
 - ii. Scholarships will be provided conditionally based on three criteria: demonstration of leadership in the local community, financial necessity, and the undertaking of a sustainable business approach;
8. *Stresses* that Member States increase financial support for humanitarian programs engaged with women in conflict-affected rural areas due to the deployment of men, which causes a decrease in financial stability, along with the risk of possible infrastructure damage changing day-to-day life, in order to:

- a. Increase childcare services through communal afterschool programs and government-funded daycare services, thus allowing women to pursue professional careers and motherhood simultaneously;
 - b. Increase job opportunities for women in rural communities who live in conflict-affected areas by allowing a greater number of businesses to be rebuilt;
 - c. Prioritize infrastructure improvement for the rebuilding of communities in rural areas affected by conflict;
9. *Encourages* Member States to increase governmental funds to security for women living in rural contexts in order to prevent acts of violence perpetrated against them, thus allowing greater opportunities to women without fear of personal harm, by:
 - a. Encouraging all Member States to implement security measures based on their values, such as:
 - i. Personal security devices, including adaptive security measures to protect women, and youth to avoid violence, especially in conflict zones, and rural areas;
 - ii. Providing safety-related education to women and youth along with education on how to report domestic violence and other forms of abuse according to the legislation of each Member State;
 - b. Inviting the reinforcement of national legislation surrounding women's safety as a means to combat violence based on gender;
10. *Proposes* that Member States strive to eliminate the discriminative and violent actions carried out towards women in their rural workplace by:
 - a. Regulating domestic unpaid labor with international guidelines in order to address the additional domestic work imposed on women in rural areas;
 - b. Giving essential tools focused on gender-based violence affecting women in working environments, in order to:
 - i. Allow victims to have opportunities and resources to seek direct help when needed with services such as shelters, counseling, and helplines;
 - ii. Prevent aggressors from censoring or silencing victims when they find themselves in oppressive working conditions using the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate;
11. *Encourages* Member states to implement gender-responsive policies and conventions, centered on the depletion of inequalities between women and men in the rural labor market, such as:
 - a. The International Labor Organization's Maternity Protection Convention, specifically Article 4, which states that the women under this convention shall be entitled to have access to at least 14 weeks of maternity leave;
 - b. Rural adapted response to violence and discrimination, to limit impunity in such communities and provide fair reparations for victims of such acts;

- c. Regulating women's unpaid labor and providing a family-friendly workplace, to help rural women balance their family responsibility with work activities;
12. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to keep supporting and adopting initiatives aimed at providing education in rural areas, by:
 - a. Increasing funding for schools, facilitating the creation of additional teaching positions in order to provide better access to education;
 - b. Allow for the uplifting of local economies through the education of women in local industries such as agriculture;
 - c. Encouraging access to homeschooling materials in states affected by conflicts or states in emergencies, with the use of adaptive schooling tools according to a UNESCO-set curriculum;
 - d. Increasing access to sexual education offered to rural women and children in order to improve knowledge surrounding safe sexual practices, influenced by the customs of the concerned community;
 - e. Advocating for the significant role mental health plays in women's ability to pursue education, opening the discussion on this topic;
13. *Recommends* the establishment of a voluntary international monitoring system such as the one used by UN Women in collaboration with the UNDP to assess the extent to which local communities are integrating women in the different sectors within rural areas through:
 - a. Building on the *United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC)* set Key Point Indicators System (KPIs) based on international guidelines;
 - b. Creating a database to act as an overview of the outcomes of the projects recommended by the Second General Assembly.



Code: GA2/1/4

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Recalling the steadfast commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG's 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, and 9 and underscoring its dedication to implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting efforts by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to pursue sustainable economic growth, including those targeting enterprise development, investment, and trade agreements, in accordance with SDG 17,

Recognizing the urgent need to address the pervasive issue of rural poverty in developing Member States and the importance of multilateralism in achieving the SDGs as outlined in UN General Assembly resolutions 73/244 (2018) and 74/237 (2019),

Reiterating the importance of collaboration between Member States and shared responsibilities in the rapid and sustainable eradication of rural poverty across all Member States as established by the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD) SOC/4917 (2024),

Acknowledging the World Bank's pivotal role in financing non-governmental organizations (NGO's), intergovernmental organizations (IGO's), and United Nations programs in alleviating poverty, improving education, and bolstering infrastructure, all crucial for the sustained development and stability of emerging economies,

Acknowledging that a strong education leads to poverty eradication which can be accomplished by adequately training teachers to ensure they receive necessary resources,

Underlining the 2018 UN Youth Strategy that recognizes youth as the future and acknowledges their crucial role in the futures of their respective Member States,

Applauding the willingness toward knowledge sharing and partnerships by Member States in order to disseminate valuable experiences in poverty alleviation according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA),

Fully believing in the importance of forming industrial partnerships that have been deemed essential to assisting landlocked, Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in eradicating poverty as per ECOSOC/7000 (2019),

Seeking the closure of the digital divide in an effort to eradicate poverty and prompt modernization within Member States that see higher numbers of poverty, and following CSocD's discussion on the growing importance of digital technology held on 15 February 2021,

Expressing concern regarding the lack of transportation to and from rural regions which then hinders the import of updated technology and resources,

Recognizes the potential of LDCs participating in Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) which can bring in over \$79 Billion dollars as reported by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 2011,

Affirming the positive relationship between PPPs and LDCs,

Approving of the resolution A/RES/47/196 that aims to enhance economic prosperity and well being for all people while protecting the environment via a low carbon economy,

Determined to allocate part of the existing resources through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) towards these critical areas to eradicate poverty and lay the groundwork for the establishment of stable and thriving states,

Supporting the investment in rural citizens and enabling the inclusive and sustainable transformation of rural areas which will catalyze food and employment security,

Expressing concern for the protection and inclusion of internally displaced migrants, including sustainable working practices through the adoption of resolution A/RES/75/460 (2020),

Recognizing also the work done by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to facilitate collaboration between Member States to eradicate rural poverty and reduce social exclusion in more than 170 Member States,

Emphasizing the vital role of technology in enhancing agricultural productivity as set out in the report "The Role of Science, Technology and Innovation in Ensuring Food Security by 2030" by the UNCTAD,

Remembers The World Summit for Social Development that promoted the use of technology among rural populations to enhance social development goals,

Recalls the major progress made by Member States alongside the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and prioritizes agriculture-based revenue programs,

Reiterates the importance of agriculture-based programs that will address the financial disparity between rural and non-rural regions and ensure improved quality of life for those struggling with extreme poverty in rural areas,

Recognizes the importance of the special edition of the report of the Secretary-General "Progress Towards the Sustainable Development Goals: Towards a Rescue Plan for People and Planet" A/78/80-E/2023/64 of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC),

Underlining the importance of trade and collaboration to foster stability and lower rural poverty rates between Member States as reported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in January 2009,

Affirming focus on preserving cultural heritages in areas undergoing urbanization, while they are transitioning towards advancing technology, carbon neutrality, and resource efficiency to better preserve their cultural and natural heritage while transitioning to a low-carbon economy,

Recognizing the need for critical infrastructure to facilitate the inclusive vocational education for rural communities to create self - sustaining measures through programs such as *Education for Rural Peoples*,

Accentuating the importance of transparency and accountability in poverty alleviation,

1. *Requesting* the implementation of policies within Member States aimed at providing individualized assistance to families vulnerable to poverty in accordance with regional and local initiatives: Member States should explore a Social Security or stimulus system based on income and assets that is adequate in providing financial assistance to citizens in need and relieving poverty and provides work based incentives to citizens;
2. *Invites* Member States to use employment support systems designated by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in an effort to encourage a shift towards the individuals' role in the labor market;
3. *Insists* on improving access to markets, education, quality infrastructure, employment, health care, and financial institutions for people living in rural areas, including the establishment of rural transformation centers or analogue entities through the use of IGOs to provide essential services to rural communities, namely:
 - a. Financial literacy training, vocational training, knowledge about sustainable living practices, knowledge about sustainable land management, and the implementation of new farming techniques through partnerships with family-owned farms and businesses;
 - b. Connecting rural communities to information and peer guidance on legal matters with funding from the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and support from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to protect them against fraudulent activity and help them strive in complicated bureaucratic business environments;
 - c. Providing rural communities with their basic everyday needs, with funding from IFAD and support from the United Nations Public-Private Alliance (UNPPA), to ensure their essential needs, as outlined in the UN Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), are met;
4. *Suggests* the UNCTAD expand its policies and establishes a program dedicated to implementing and offering consulting services to bolster entrepreneurship and diversify exports, while considering barriers faced by micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), especially in relation to international certification and distribution in global trade, with a focus on developing Member States and regions;
5. *Requesting* the implementation of policies that encourage internal vulnerability reports by Member State of their already in place systems to eradicate poverty in an effort to aid in creating labor-based incentives;
6. *Considers* the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on sustainable agriculture and how access to technology and education underscores the importance of reallocating funding from the World Bank towards disaster relief programs and the expansion of the Crisis Relief Group (CRG) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA):
 - a. Financial and other forms of aid provided by UNOCHA and CRG will be distributed based on need measured and determined by the UN;
 - b. Financial and other forms of aid provided by UNOCHA and CRG will be instituted to the extent that they provide meaningful services, and will not be granted to the extent that any collection of people becomes solely dependent on its presence;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of initiatives to encourage partnerships that strengthen economic and social ties and promote sustainable development through increased interconnectedness between Member States;
8. *Recommends* developed Member States to consider allocating a percentage of their financial contributions towards pivotal sectors, including education and infrastructure, within developing Member States:
 - a. The CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) program exemplifies European Member States' willingness to collaborate to ensure agricultural development across the continent;
 - b. The ODA (Official Development Assistance) is internationally recognized as being at the forefront of Member States' willingness to support global development initiatives;
9. *Calls for* the implementation of educational programs, aimed at developing working and life skills to avoid further impoverishment, and run by United Nations International School certified educators within Member States, to strengthen local economies and communities as well as provide incentives for the creation of new labor markets and sustainability based education by providing the tools to open and run said markets;
10. *Suggests* that those involved with UN Youth Strategy reconvene, citing many Member States' high youth populations, update the 2018 approach to empower youth through education in the 2020s and beyond;
11. *Urges* international organizations such as the Organization for Poverty Alleviation and Development, Oxfam, and World Relief to implement comprehensive development programs addressing various dimensions of poverty in order to create a conducive environment for sustainable development;
12. *Advises* the implementation of Member State policies to integrate and leverage innovative technologies in agriculture;
13. *Calls upon* the establishment of a UN conference developed in line with the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) under the name of the United Nations Conference on Accessibility of Rural Technology (UNxCART) to promote rural engagement with technology;
14. *Endorses* larger and improved access to transportation and communication technologies, such as international job portals and application tracking systems, as a way of creating platforms to aid citizens of Member States in finding and acquiring jobs within the labor market;
15. *Encourages* Member States to use information and communication technologies (ICT) locally to enhance communication between government and their respective populations and to aim for equal distribution of ICTs among participatory Member States;
16. *Calls upon* Member States to implement programs that raise the standard of living for rural citizens and aid in the modernization of Member States to promote the eradication of poverty;
17. *Calls upon* developed Member States in the General Assembly to prioritize investments in the education sector of developing countries through a voluntary collaborative fund;

18. *Strongly encourages* the establishment of a program by the World Bank to fund IGOs that aid in eradicating poverty and preventing hunger, such as the FAO, World Food Programme (WFP), and IFAD;
19. *Invites* assistance from the FAO using their \$30 billion food and nutrition security package by the World Bank from April 2022 - June 2023 as a guide to reallocate additional funding;
20. *Urges* contribution from the WFP as per the July 2022 statement by the WFP and from the World Bank's contribution of \$100 billion in emergency funding and food assistance, as a guide to reallocate additional funding;
21. *Stresses* the utilization of IFAD and the Integrated Borrowing Framework alongside loans and bonds as IFAD supports Member States and dominantly focuses on rural communities within the African region:
 - a. Further using the Sustainable Development Finance Framework specifies how IFAD funds are to be managed in compliance with the ICMA's Sustainability Guidelines and also supports 16 out of 17 SDGs;
 - b. IFAD's dominant projects include improving agricultural production, strengthening rural finance, and improving access to markets, networks, and utilities;
22. *Advises* Member States to adopt advanced and sustainable technologies to better preserve cultural and natural heritage while transitioning to a low-carbon economy, it is crucial to ensure that this progress is inclusive and fair, guaranteeing access to new technologies for all;
23. *Affirms* focus on preserving cultural and environmental resources, enhancing and advancing technology, carbon neutrality, and resource efficiency, this entails to:
 - a. Help adopt advanced and sustainable technologies;
 - b. Help preserve our cultural and natural heritage while transitioning to a low-carbon economy;
24. *Appeals* to Member States to provide relief to families brought into, or at risk of, impoverished conditions due to unforeseen accidents such as natural disasters;
25. *Trusts* that the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) would aid in these endeavors for Member States willing to help organize aid for their citizens that lack the proper resources to do so as provided aid would include, but not be limited to, clean water and food, temporary shelters, and medicine;
26. *Strongly encourages* the publishing of a guiding handbook along with Resolution A/78/L.49 by the Food and Agriculture Organization for Member States to host training programs on the including of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in agriculture which will include:
 - a. Propositions for community based approaches to acquaint educated farmers on the ways to implement smart agriculture;
 - b. A system that facilitates farming for rural areas with irrigation based on the quality of the land;

- c. A system that analyzes inefficiencies in the land and provides recommendations on how to act.



Code: GA2/1/5

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

The Second Committee of the General Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly (GA) Resolution 70/1, “Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (2015), which established the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and highlighted the importance of SDG 1: No Poverty, SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals,

Reaffirming GA Resolution 78/165, “Eradicating Rural Poverty for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” which highlights the importance of promoting socio-economic development in rural areas and focuses on the critical role of rural women, fishers, and smallholders,

Reaffirming the commitment to uphold international human rights standards and principles, including the acknowledgment of the right to a quality standard of living in bolstering health and security as outlined by Article 25 and declaring that ‘everyone has the right to education’ by Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) and relevant conventions, in addressing rural poverty and ensuring the dignity and well-being of all individuals and communities affected,

Recalling the adoption of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (1992) and the *Beijing Declaration* (1995), and noting the role that rural populations play in establishing sustainable practices on a universal scale,

Recalls the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (2007) and its commitment to provide self-determination for recognized indigenous groups,

Applauding GA resolution 68/220, “Science, Technology, and Innovation for Sustainable Development” (2013), for highlighting the importance that technological development has to help uplift rural communities and to help accomplish the SDGs by 2030,

Keeping in mind GA Resolutions 70/219, “Women in Development,” and 72/233, “Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty”, as well as the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) in further noting the role of women and girls in universal progression and sustainable development,

Reaffirming the outcome of the *Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development* (2002) and *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* (2015),

Acknowledging disproportionate rates of poverty at an alarming rate of 17.2% compared to 5.3% in urban areas, with about 80% of impoverished individuals residing in rural areas,

Appealing to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to aid in the creation of a globalized agricultural trading network,

Noting with concern a striking lack of developed education based on region, as students in urban communities outperform those in rural communities by a 31-point margin within core subjects according to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD),

Recognizing the work done by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in combating poverty and hunger globally,

Acknowledging small and large-scale sustainable agricultural practices already active in rural communities, such as the Atoll Food Futures (AFF), the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), the Small Islands Food and Water Project (SIFWaP), and the Worldwide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF),

Re-emphasizing the 2022 Doha Programme of Action (DPoA) to support the strengthening and resilience of least-developed countries (LDCs) through infrastructural building capacity,

Expressing with satisfaction the investments the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) made in sustainable infrastructure addressing the interconnected crisis of climate change as proposed by the UNEP Resolution /EA.5/Res.9, "Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure,"

Recalling the Sustainable Transport Conference 2021, which notes that those living in poverty spend more than a fifth of their income on public transportation,

Supportive of the United Nations Economic, Social, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in eradicating rural poverty and increasing collaboration between Member States,

Emphasizing the achievements of Care International and the Alliance for Children Everywhere (ACE), leading non-governmental organizations (NGOs) focused on providing emergency relief and sustaining international development projects to combat global poverty,

Stressing the importance of the protection of land and water seeking the efficient use of both to promote an increase in economic and financial stability as recognized by the UNEP,

Recognizing that those displaced by the loss of land are at an increased risk of suffering from the effects of poverty, as noted by the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHCR), encouraging sustainable practices will not only reduce the loss of land causing their displacement but also ensure migrants will have access to a sustainable habitat, and the collaboration with the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) to promote sustainability,

Acknowledges the work of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and their mission to promote educational programs, the UN Forest Protections Forum, and the Forum on Financing for Development (FFD),

Deeply Concerned with the widespread rural de-population and its negative economic effects on rural communities, such as slowed economic growth and abandonment of rural homes, as noted by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP),

Mindful of the study that describes how Green Bonds have served as a bridge to the UN SDGs which highlights investors' efforts for climate mitigation that underlie SDGs,

Recalling the Importance of Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs) in achieving SDGs and rural development as noted by the Department of Social and Economic Affairs, according to the

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) 2022 World Financial Report which stated that rural development is crucial to both the eradication of poverty,

Recalling the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* (Sendai Framework), aiming to reduce rural people's vulnerability to disasters, bearing in mind Priority 2 of the framework that concentrates on poverty reduction at all scales,

Applauding The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) for signing with the FAO and the UN Population's Fund on a 2-year draft action plan that aims to increase rural women's coverage of care services on a regional scale,

Recognizing that according to the FAO, women account for 43% of the global agricultural force and play a catalytic role in the economic growth of their communities and countries,

Acknowledging the UNEP Sustainable Infrastructure Partnership (SIP) seeking to encourage the implementation of sustainable development principles per SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure,

Highlighting the efforts made by the FAO in their Gender Action Learning System (GALS), under the UN Joint Program on Accelerating Progress Towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women (JP RWEE) to effectively provide rural women with financing activities and also recognizing the results and dedication of the WWOOF which has connected organic farmers, built a global community, and promoted educational exchanges,

Concerned with growing land inequality within the global South according to the IMF dimensions of land inequality and economic development with careful regard to internal security and abuse of vulnerable communities within rural areas,

Recalling the World Bank report, "*Understanding Poverty*," that 700 million people live below the poverty line on less than \$2.15 per day and numerous LDCs face ongoing difficulties with poverty and inequality, and recognizing it has a detrimental impact on communities worldwide,

Mindful of the disproportionate impact of poverty on vulnerable groups which include women, children, and single parents living in rural regions as noted by the 2018 UN expert meeting: "How Are Inequality And Poverty Linked?," and *recognizing* the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) as a leader in protecting vulnerable children,

Recognizing the importance of promoting education, access to childcare, and job creation initiatives in rural areas to empower communities and break the cycle of poverty,

Acknowledging the necessity of accountability and adherence to international humanitarian law such as the Geneva Conventions in addressing the humanitarian crises exacerbated by poverty, including the lack of essential resources such as water, food, and medical infrastructure, faced by rural populations, and *acknowledging* the United Nations Security Council's role in preventing humanitarian crises,

Stressing the importance of supporting rural development programs and initiatives, including investments in education, healthcare, infrastructure, and sustainable agriculture, to create employment opportunities, enhance livelihoods, and address the root causes of rural poverty,

Seeking to provide aid and protection to those who are doubtlessly more vulnerable to the dangers of climate change, due to a lack of infrastructure, medical resources, and sustainable practices,

Applauding the establishment of community-driven microfinance initiatives to tailor the needs of rural workers by providing financial literacy training and mentorship programs to bolster economic empowerment,

Emphasizing the importance of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples (UNVFIP) which seeks to give indigenous peoples grants to help voice their unique perspectives and challenges within their local and national governments, and *Recognizing* how the UNVFIP has funded the participation of over 3,000 Indigenous representatives in relevant UN mechanisms over the past 38 years,

Recognizing the efforts done with sharing anti-corruption best practices and corruption prevention with the Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific,

Understands the role that the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) and Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) play in helping facilitate feedback for rural and underdeveloped communities towards completing the 2030 Agenda,

1. *Recommends* the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to investigate further peace-building measures such as operations and platforms for communication that promote economic development in conflict-affected regions to enable the construction of infrastructure that will ensure sustainable economic development by:
 - a. Investigating measures to reduce the severity of rural poverty that is exacerbated by conflict-affected regions to ensure room for economic development in rural regions;
 - b. Implementing UN Peacekeeping Missions to ensure that the operations for the promotion of economic development will uplift those facing rural poverty in conflict-affected regions through intervention against non-state militant groups;
2. *Calls for* Member States to end all acts of violence and aggression targeting rural communities and infrastructure by:
 - a. Expanding existing networks such as the *International Family Preservation* network created by the ACE dedicated to equipping youth with the necessary support systems to offer alternatives to involvement in crime and violence to enable them to contribute economically within their communities;
 - b. Facilitating cooperation with relevant NGOs such as *Plan International* to bolster AI efforts in rural, typically impoverished areas;
 - c. Strengthening anti-corruption initiatives such as the *Anti-corruption for Asia and the Pacific* created by the OECD to bolster the efficiency of emergency services and reduce the victimization of civilians;
 - d. Facilitating intra and inter-communal spaces for dialogue that bridge ethnic and political differences to ensure peaceful resolutions of disputes, through the help of organizations such as the *International Cultural Diversity Organization* (ICDO);
3. *Calls for* UNICEF and the FAO to create all programs regarding sustainable agriculture and the creation of best practices:
 - a. Following Article 26 of the UDHR, noting the universal right to developed promoting understanding and synergy throughout the Member States;

- b. By inviting lecturers and professors from the United Nations Academic Impact project, Advanced Farm 360, to further promote ideas on sustainable agriculture and capacity-building practices;
 - c. By holding more food nutrition masterclasses for children similar to the FAO-UNICEF virtual lab in 2021 covering school-based food and nutrition, which was noted in an article published by the FAO to promote further initiatives such as school gardens and food loss reduction projects;
 - d. *Recommends* ECOSOC create a voluntary youth exchange program across Member States to work on completing UN projects in impoverished communities to further global of the UN and other cultures through their work with a diverse group of individuals working towards the creation of a more sustainable and less impoverished world;
4. *Encourages* Member States to implement FAO Action Number 4 of building producers' knowledge and developing their capacities of both small and large-scale sustainable agricultural practices from FAO's Common Vision for Sustainable Food and Agriculture so that those in rural communities have access to sustainable profitable skills, systems, and all opportunities:
- a. By working with Non-Governmental Organizations and promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships such as AFF to encourage growth and understanding of sustainable agriculture methods within Small Island Developing States (SIDS);
 - b. By creating an international information hub for people to learn more about sustainable farming programs;
 - c. By creating a knowledge-transferring program available to all Member States;
 - d. Suggests adopting climate-conscious agricultural practices such as aquaponics and permaculture to help better create more sustainable agriculture;
 - e. And recognizing the importance of establishing more limitations and restrictions on illegal and unregulated fishing as well as over-farming leading to soil erosion, which consequently crowds out small farm holders and producers and limits crop/catch yields;
 - f. Through the creation of initiatives such as WWOOF and opportunities on Permaculture farming with host farms and organic farming opportunities;
 - g. Seeks to link people with organic farmers, promote large and small-scale exchange, and build a global community conscious of ecological farming practices;
 - h. Implementing a CAP strategic plan aimed at providing a fair income to farmers and preserving landscapes and biodiversity;
5. *Invites* governments, international organizations, and civil society actors to engage in collaborative efforts to promote sustainable economic development through the World Trade Organization (WTO), to implement sustainable and environmentally friendly maintenance of farming and irrigation practices and technologies, such as soils and biodiversity, as well as social inclusion through knowledge transfer via the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) for the expanded sustainability and environmentally-friendly maintenance of farming and irrigation practices and technologies, such as soils and biodiversity:

- a. Collaborates with local organizations and NGOs such as Navdanya, Green Cross International, Climate Cardinals, Oceanic Global, and the Green earth-fund to provide free workshops for the community that increase global awareness of climate change and teach how to combat these issues;
 - b. Recommends the creation of a trading network known as the Rural Trade Empowerment Network (RTEN), which is open to all Member States, to uplift the economy of agricultural regions all over the world exposed to rural poverty;
 - c. By creating the Rural Trade Empowerment Network, rural regions that are abundant in agricultural resources will engage with nations that are lacking agricultural sustenance, often a symptom of rural poverty, and boost the commerce of both rural areas, providing a strengthened means of economy to help reduce poverty levels in rural areas;
 - d. To encourage trade with small rural communities that without the network would not have the global opportunity to participate in trade;
 - e. Encourages the Rural Trade Empowerment Network to have a similar structure to the African Continental Free Trade Area (ACFTA) on a globalized scale that:
 - i. The ACFTA is an agreement that establishes trade connections between states and provides a protocol for trade;
 - ii. The structure of the ACFTA, which is supported by the FAO, enhances food control systems and promotes inclusiveness in order to expand food security;
 - f. By working with the FAO in local agriculture communities to emphasize the importance of working in fair trade;
 - g. Pushing for multi-stakeholder partnerships to work within agricultural communities to help stimulate economic growth;
 - h. Suggests the creation of an online database to display local agricultural products to be bought and sold globally;
 - i. Encourages Member States to transport these goods by the most sustainable and practical means to optimize efficiency and eco-friendliness;
6. *Calls upon* the World Bank and the IMF to create a global fund, with the guidance of the FAO, to aid the implementation of sustainable agriculture in rural areas:
- a. Participating Member States could contribute an amount proportionate and fair to their Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the Gross National Debt, and population; It Promotes the adaptability of the funding program which must be met by a detailed proposal of sustainable agriculture to promote natural and local resources within Member States with a close approximation of the amount needed in the proposal;
 - b. Asks the funds to be approved by the United Nations Fifth Committee in concurrence with the FAO;

- c. Calls upon the regional actors within the UNDP will be in direct contact with local economies that receive funding to provide oversight into the progress of Member States' use of funding;
 - d. Requests for the use of funding and its effectiveness to be monitored by regional actors from the UNDP, which will visit these local economies at the one-year mark after the distribution of funding and will follow up at the five-year mark while also tracking the nation's GDP at these same points in time;
 - e. Requests for the IFAD and FAO to conduct a report on the current implementation of sustainable farming initiatives;
7. *Suggests* for UNDP and the HLPF to work with willing Member States to help facilitate local and indigenous perspectives in local government and participation by:
- a. Collaborating with local communities through private stakeholders and NGO partnerships within LDCs, SIDS, and other marginalized rural populations;
 - b. Instituting sensitization campaigns to ensure informed participation with NGOs such as Care International;
 - c. Working with stakeholder partnerships and local governments to include indigenous communities to have sections within VNRs with a focus specifically on rural and indigenous community perspectives;
8. *Encourages* the promotion of financial literacy in areas where agriculture contributes heavily towards Member States' GDP by:
- a. Suggesting the *United Nations Educational, Cultural, and Scientific Organization* (UNESCO), and UNICEF to create a program specifically sectorized in financial literacy by:
 - i. Promoting sustainable consumption and resource preservation in accordance with SDG 12;
 - ii. Emphasizing the importance of nurturing fragile economies through educating on debt relief, starting businesses, budgeting, and supply & demand;
 - iii. Highlighting the need to destigmatize and encourage women the autonomy of women in rural communities enabled through financial independence;
 - b. Suggesting the creation of digital workshops and printed workshop material to promote accessibility for community members;
 - c. Calling upon IFAD in working to promote universal access to all programs;
 - d. Implementing capacity-building programs within less populated communities to encourage integration and community-oriented activities;
9. *Endorses* a comprehensive course of action to mitigate all resources between rural and urban regions by:
- a. *Recommending* the creation of an enriched program for rural school systems for equitable access, accomplished through integrated programs to urban resources;

- b. *Advising* an emphasis on allocating funding toward the advancement of women to address the gender disparity in rural al opportunities;
 - c. *Supporting* the continuance of expanding internet infrastructure to evolve the al framework within rural regions;
10. *Encourages* the further development of projects aimed toward the eradication of rural poverty by:
- a. Expanding the Doha Programme of Action (2022), which is a developmental roadmap for strengthening and building resilience for LCDs through infrastructure, technology, and general increase in building capacity;
 - b. Emphasizing efforts towards UN Sustainable Development Goals for Pacific Island States;
 - c. Integrating equal opportunities through rural communities (education beyond urban areas) working towards SDGs 4 and 8 for education and therefore potential employment. Also, emphasizing SDG 17, increasing opportunities for economic growth through global partnerships;
 - d. Supporting infrastructure programs to improve land and maritime travel routes for SIDS and LDCs to strengthen SDGs 4, 8, and 9;
 - e. Supporting regional efforts to reduce crime and violence which exacerbates rural poverty while emphasizing solutions which advance SDGs 3, 5, 8, and 16, including:
 - i. Development of youth organizations to connect marginalized communities with support systems which offer economically-beneficial alternatives to crime and violence;
 - ii. Implementation of community-based educational resources to prevent the victimization of women by combating the discrimination that they face;
11. *Invites* the UN Women to continue to work to address rural poverty by:
- a. Promote the implementation of a gender-sensitive budget for more inclusive allocation of financial resources in rural communities;
 - b. Extend context-specific programs to foster the integration of rural populations into the labor market such as the Training Center services initiative run by the United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM) by implementing technical and vocational training programs for women in vulnerable rural communities in matters of agriculture and technology;
12. *Recommends* Member States focus on bolstering access to essential services in rural regions, with a particular focus on empowering marginalized groups such as women, and children using a multitude of methods such as social safety nets, and access to medical services;
13. *Encourages* the implementation of programs such as Portugal’s Women Farmers in the Inner Territories (MAIs) which aims to empower women farmers throughout the country by:
- a. Creating an intervention-oriented project that encourages women to gain a stronger social role along with a prominent role in the economy;

- i. Through the creation of meetings and empowerment sessions;
 - ii. By targeting a broader public, such as local technicians, the local community, and civil society in general, to raise awareness of women farmers' fundamental role;
 - b. Stimulating women farmers' active citizenship, social participation, and visibility, to build a more democratic and equal society by addressing technical, personal development, and organizational subjects vis-à-vis the women's identified needs, as diagnosed in the field through inquiries and participative focus groups;
 - c. Assisting women in their financial stability by:
 - i. Integrating programs that will teach women how to be economically independent through microfinancing services;
 - ii. Providing women with basic such as reading and writing skills;
 - iii. Creating the opportunity to understand financial documents and contracts;
 - iv. By teaching women how to create signatures;
 - v. Encouraging institutions with financial opportunities and personnel to host seminars to give women a bigger sense of urgency towards financial independence and increase the want to become financially intelligent;
 - vi. Encouraging collaboration of Member States to promote all internal and external exchange programs to ensure accessibility for women and girls through statewide programs to increase accessibility for girls to attend school;
 - d. Recommending the creation of the 'Sexual and Reproductive Health for Rural Women' (SRRW) program in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), regional organizations, and national authorities to assist countries aiming to reduce high birth rates in their rural areas in educating women on a broad range of topics, including their reproductive rights and hygienic post-maternal care;
14. *Advocates* for the expansion of IFAD, supported by the introduction of precision agricultural technologies and local programs, which provides grants to smaller developing countries where agriculture holds significant weight, by:
- a. Funding clean water initiatives in rural areas;
 - b. Continuing to develop rural infrastructure in Member States to reduce the isolation of rural communities including:
 - i. Paved roads from rural areas to urban areas;
 - ii. Development of fiber optic lines to rural communities;
 - c. Educating farmers to adopt more novel and efficient technologies in their practices to achieve green agriculture and reduce poverty effectively;

- d. Encouraging Member States in IFAD to provide investments through the Private Sector Financing Program (PFSP), which aims to promote investment in small-scale agricultural sites as well as MSMEs with a new focus on improving infrastructure and facilitating economic prosperity in rural areas;
 - e. Appealing to an enlargement of local programs such as the SIFWaP, which intends to increase the food, nutrition, and water security for small islands;
15. *Encourages the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) to support Member States in developing national initiatives aimed at building sustainable industries and infrastructures resilient to natural disasters such as implemented in the Sendai Framework as:*
- a. Earthquake-resistant infrastructure in seismic-prone areas by Member States;
 - b. Regular inspections of buildings and roads by Member States;
 - c. Calls upon a transportation program for SIDS and LDCs that implements sustainability and affordability that allows for connectivity between rural and urban communities to generate employment opportunities for rural communities:
 - i. Recommends using Disaster Risk Reduction (DPR) infrastructure materials for the construction of roads and railways in rural communities as proposed by the Sendai Framework;
 - ii. Strongly encourages continued investments in electric buses in developing countries to continue the trend of electrification of transportation as described by the Analysis and Policy Recommendations from the UN Secretary General's Advisory Group on Sustainable Tourism;
16. *Asks that the FAO Action Plan 2022-2025 for the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Climate Change to serve as a rural development program focusing on entrepreneurship training for rural women to help facilitate financing activities, constructive training, focusing on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) strategies, to teach rural women and girls how to build immunity to disasters and manage their susceptibility to climate risk;*
17. *Recommends Member States follow the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) guidelines to increase protections for those at a higher risk of climate change, specifically those in rural and impoverished areas, these protections include an escalation of infrastructure, medical institutions, and sustainable practices:*
- a. Better access to affordable and durable housing for those in poverty;
 - b. An increase in health care aid for those who have been injured due to climate change;
 - c. Implementation of better sustainable practices;
 - d. Establish community-based early warning systems for disaster risk reduction to minimize impact on populations vulnerable to natural disasters;
18. *Recommends that Member States cultivate diverse rural projects by endorsing economic growth in sectors such as renewable energy technology, thereby ensuring that rural communities have*

access to a wider range of employment opportunities beyond traditional agriculture and resource extraction:

- a. Encourages the implementation of training programs for rural populations in renewable energy technologies, which will not only provide new skills but also facilitate the transition to a more sustainable energy infrastructure;
 - b. Invites the promotion of public-private partnerships in rural areas to attract investments in renewable energy projects, thereby creating new jobs and stimulating local economies;
 - c. Suggests Member States to invest in natural fibers as an alternative to synthetic fibers and plastic-based products as any damage to the environment deeply and directly affects the economic conditions of vulnerable communities as well as the development of 4th generation mobile communications networks to expand broadband internet for rural areas and sustainable technological resources like renewable energy, green architecture to ensure the continuation of agricultural advances;
19. *Reiterating* the need for an expansion in the collaboration between the public and private sectors in programs such as the GAFSP, which aims to improve food and nutrition security worldwide;
20. *Calls for* a sustainable and long-term financing of regional, national, and international projects organized by, but not limited to Member States, the UN, or NGOs to eradicate rural poverty by:
- a. Advising the ECOSOC's FFD follow-up to prioritize efforts aimed at eradicating rural poverty through targeted policies, programs, and initiatives through the provision of consistent and long-term financial planning;
 - b. Calling on the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) to draw up a country-specific list of potential projects that can support disease eradication and sustainable development, humanitarian aid, and capacity building in rural communities, to assist Member States in targeting their financial commitments;
 - c. Encouraging Member States to allocate adequate resources and expertise towards the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies addressing the multifaceted challenges faced by rural communities, including access to education, healthcare, infrastructure, and sustainable livelihoods. This might include but is not limited to:
 - i. The cooperation with NGOs (e.g. Oxfam, Misereor, and especially local NGOs working on the field) focusing especially on the promoted topics on the regional level;
 - ii. The supervision of the progress within national task forces initiated by the national governments;
 - d. Further inviting Member States to reevaluate draft resolution A/C.2/78/L.18 to conduct comprehensive reviews of their taxation policies in a coordinated expert group like the International Tax and Investment Center (ITIC), with focus on aligning them with SDGs, particularly targeting practices and industries that contribute to rural poverty exacerbation:

- i. Encourages Member States to foster international cooperation on effective taxation strategies that support sustainable rural development;
 - ii. All Member States recognize the importance of shared knowledge and best practices in advancing education, agriculture and infrastructure development agendas;
 - e. Recommending the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office to thoroughly investigate and strategize the feasibility and mechanisms for securing long-term financing dedicated to initiatives aimed at eradicating rural poverty worldwide which is funded outside of the regular UN budget in light of the fluctuating nature of governmental spending patterns;
 - f. Advising the UNDP to adapt substantive measures to reduce rural poverty by providing financial support to developing states for extending social protection programs to rural areas as a means of reducing poverty by:
 - i. Supporting technological exchange initiatives aimed at enhancing infrastructure development in rural areas;
 - ii. Expanding UNDP Loss and Damage Fund to aid in reconstructing industrial and agricultural sectors in rural areas post-conflict or natural disasters;
 - iii. Collaborating with the Global Actions Program on ESD to provide further education on sustainable farming and the sustainable use of resources, improve the effectiveness and future security of industry in rural areas, and minimize the environmental impact;
 - iv. Preparation of an annual report on the status of these programs for the second committee;
21. *Suggests* the ECOSOC to convene a UN Forests Protections Forum to discuss the importance of forests, land protection, and development within the role of rural communities:
- a. By calling for local government leaders in rural areas, multi-stakeholders, indigenous populations, women, and young people to convene once a year to discuss global land protection programs and initiatives;
 - b. To help share progress, discuss successes and areas of improvement to help spread awareness about land importance;
 - c. Along with sharing best practices for land protection in local communities and knowledge-sharing;
 - d. Including panels and guidance sessions for indigenous knowledge and practices and to implement cultural support to help best protect rural territories;
 - e. And to help create guiding frameworks for land protection and forest protection in all areas;
22. *Recommends* the UNDP and the UNEP create guidelines for the creation of artificial bodies of water to achieve SDG 6 in mitigating water retention and irrigation measures to help improve the overall health of Member States;

23. *Encourages* Member States to create and implement measures devoted to the protection of land, as we recognize that adequate protection of land will promote food stability, the creation and promotion of small businesses, and increased access to agriculture have a significant impact in reducing poverty and reducing the displacement of people;
24. *Advises* the United Nations UNESCO to support Member States in implementing national strategies aimed at providing wider access on a national level, by:
 - a. Increasing investments in such as building schools and hiring teachers;
 - b. Collaborating with NGOs both local and international, such as The Forum for African Women Educationalist (FAWE), to provide access to rural and less developed areas;
 - c. Providing vocational training for highly skilled labor such as computer skills and business;
 - d. Increasing access to higher through all South-South programs between participating Member States;
 - e. Establishing 'Digital Empowerment for Rural Development' initiatives to provide rural youth with the necessary digital tools to develop sustainable agricultural solutions by supporting the UNDP in building Internet towers in underserved communities and expanding electricity access through methods such as solar, wave, geothermal, and other renewable means;
25. *Commits* to encouraging Member States and newly created projects and guidelines to remain actively engaged in efforts to eradicate rural poverty, recognizing the urgency and importance of sustained international cooperation and solidarity in achieving tangible progress toward poverty alleviation and sustainable development in rural areas.



Code: GA2/1/6

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

General Assembly Second Committee,

Reaffirming United Nations (UN) General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “*Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*” introducing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially noting SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals),

Noting the UN General Assembly resolution 76/219 (2021) entitled “Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” which calls to eradicate rural poverty to implement the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*—productive employment, quality public services, transforming and strengthening food systems,

Recognizing UN General Assembly resolution 68/220 (2013) entitled “Science, Technology, and Innovation for Development,” which highlights the importance of technological development to meet the SDGs,

Recalling UN General Assembly resolutions 244/73 (2018) entitled “*Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*” and 273/74 (2019) “*Oceans and the Law of the Sea*” on the various avenues to effectively address and abate rural poverty,

Reaffirming the *Paris Agreement* (2015), which encourages Member States to fully implement sustainable agricultural practices with a focus on enabling rural communities in their fight against climate change,

Also noting the ongoing work of the disaster prevention framework set forth by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,

Applauding UN General Assembly resolution 66/288 (2012) entitled “The Future We Want,” which reaffirms the need for sustainable agriculture to promote food security in developing countries,

Recognizing UN General Assembly resolution 47/196 (1993), which declared October 17th as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, emphasizing the need for education and human rights,

Reiterating the commitment to the Doha Programme of Action (DPoA) reflecting a multifaceted approach towards poverty through investments into developing countries and supporting the structural transformation of less developed communities,

Calls Upon Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR), (1948), which states that everyone should have equal access to education,

Recalling the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG) (2016), which aims to bring together Member States to tackle water scarcity and use water resources efficiently in the agricultural sector,

Further Recalling the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) 2022-2026 Rural Sustainable Development Strategy, and the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP) 26,

Guided by the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) framework on enhancing adaptation and strengthening the resilience of farming to climate risks,

Concerned by the stagnant state of agricultural productivity in rural regions and areas, especially due to the World Bank's projections that an estimated 100 million people will be in extreme poverty because of the effects of climate change,

Appreciating the work done by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in assisting policymakers around the world by helping to address growing challenges in connection to water scarcity, floods, and pollution through their water governance principles, the UN-Water's coordination within the UN to reach sustainable water and sanitation, Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights under the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) providing regular reports on the worldwide development of rural poverty, the World Health Organization (WHO) combating rural health inequities, and the United Nations Doha Mandate for recognizing the need for a knowledge-transferring system,

Acknowledging the lack of private companies being utilized to boost impoverished area's economies, as studied in 2022 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), reporting that while investments have tripled, the majority of those funds have primarily gone to developed nations, leaving states with high poverty without their fair share,

Concerned with the inadequacy of existing international institutions, such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the World Bank, in serving the needs of the developing Member States,

Bearing in mind that the Member States experiencing the worst effects of rural poverty are Least Developed Countries (LDCs),

Recognizing that rural areas accommodate nearly 54% of humans worldwide and are home to 79% of people living in extreme poverty, as stated in a World Bank Report,

Noting the 26% drop experienced in extreme poverty between 1990 and 2015 as reported by the United Nations,

Calling attention to the World Bank's report indicating that agriculture accounts for 80% of rural employment in developing countries, despite their lack of access to basic resources such as education,

Conscious of the positive impact that microfinancing and microlending by state and local banks have had on previously underrepresented and underserved groups such as ethnic minorities, women, and communities operating under unique governance models,

Calling attention to the Official Development Assistance (ODA) targeted at economic development and welfare in developing countries,

Emphasizing the importance of microinsurance and microloans in providing financial assistance to rural populations, aiding in poverty alleviation efforts, and promoting sustainable development,

Acknowledging the importance of cultural exchanges and the appreciation of rural cultures to promote financial flow in areas that are less populated and have fewer income opportunities,

Strongly emphasizing rural communities' need for self-reliance and readiness for emerging economic opportunities,

Acknowledging the actions taken by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to augment the promotion of private and local enterprises, and protect cultural heritage sites,

Having studied Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) Programs, a model often used in public-private partnerships, in which a private entity receives the authorization to finance and build a project, to then own and operate to receive a financial return, and eventually transfer ownership to the party authorizing the endeavor,

Recognizing the works of the Train for Trade II program, part of UNCTAD, in nations in high poverty to address the lack of training opportunities for impoverished peoples, this program works to give people the knowledge for multiple industries to help grow a state economy, thus lowering the poverty rate,

Emphasizing the most recent meeting of the UN General Assembly Second Committee, accelerating efforts to eradicate rural poverty, strengthening economic well-being and education,

Takes note with appreciation local focused programs like Terra Ranka and Hora Tchiga, which focus on educating women and children through government funds,

Acknowledging the lack of education in developing Member States, especially the disproportionate number of women and children that are affected by this,

Realizing the importance of combating rural communities' poor access to markets, education, healthcare, and vulnerability to environmental shocks to ensure rural communities are not isolated from an economic market and the benefits that come from it,

Noting with alarm the economic instability of small-scale farmers vulnerable to climate change in rural areas,

Fully aware of the lack of women's access to lands, financial services, and education in rural areas,

Draws the attention of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), an intergovernmental organization that works at addressing poverty and hunger in rural areas, which coincides with SDGs 1 and 2,

Reaffirms its belief that agrotechnology can be used for preserving the current production of goods with the possibility of increasing it as well, the aid that technology would provide for micro farmers would be immense as they would gain more free time, which could be used in education, language learning, and modernization by providing low-cost agricultural machinery to rural farmers to help farmers improve production efficiency through Green Climate Fund,

Emphasizing our commitment to the fullest implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, especially Part I Article 2 "All peoples may, for their ends, freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources without prejudice to any obligations arising out of international

economic co-operation, based upon the principle of mutual benefit, and international law; in no case may a people be deprived of its means of subsistence,”

Cognizant of the need for a new paradigm that moves beyond nationalization or privatization in capital and resource management,

Affirming the idea of sovereignty, the UN does not promote coercion of states with the stated expressed intention of economic development, and the core principle of subsidiarity concerning the remediation of rural poverty,

Expressing concern at the marginalization of perspectives of developing Member States in international discussions surrounding financial institutions,

Acknowledging the disproportionate economic disadvantage women face in rural areas, as highlighted by UN Women,

Encouraged by the actions taken within the ASEAN Framework Action Plan on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication of 2021-2025,

Understanding the need for an intersectional approach, especially taking into consideration women, children, and indigenous peoples,

Understanding the pressing need to transform rural areas into modernized communities as expressed by the UN-Habitat,

Admitting the pivotal role of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in fostering the evolution of rural regions into contemporary, sustainable hubs in alignment with SDG 11,

Emphasizing the human right to connection to the internet, as noted by the Broadband Commission initiative,

Noting with concern the findings of the National Library of Medicine, which demonstrated high levels of rural depopulation, especially among women due to the lack of access to basic rights and services,

1. *Requests* the cooperation of international organizations to provide both financial and analytical assistance to Member States that cannot take the necessary action against eradicating rural poverty due to economic and/or social issues through ways, such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Allocating a budgets of monetary institutions for the implementation of local capacity building measures (CBMs), educational, technological innovation, and water scarcity programs towards the eradication of poverty, international organizations such as but not limited to — IMF, World Bank, Global Fund, and Asian Development Bank (ADB);
 - b. Inviting the International Fund for Agricultural Development to prevent causes and mitigate the effects of poverty in rural areas, addressing issues such as water scarcity, microfinance, the development gap between unemployment, discrimination against women in the rural working sector, and migration from rural to urban areas, inter alia:
 - i. Proving and assisting with basic education through technical and vocational training, to increase productivity within the rural sector;

- ii. Raising awareness regarding the disparity between the lack of transportation infrastructure, the lack of clean water, and sanitizing services through the news, and various social media platforms;
2. *Calls for* Member States to develop micro-credit programs such as micro-loans to generate savings opportunities, targeted at marginalized members, especially women and disadvantaged youth to enable economic empowerment and entrepreneurship in rural areas while addressing the issues surrounding Micro-Finances such as but not limited to lack of regulations regarding loans, income Inequalities, high-interest rates;
3. *Endorses* the increase in spending among Member States to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and Regional Economic Commissions for the continual work on existing and future projects:
 - a. Such as Myanmar's "Golden Paddy" to aid the work of thousands of rural farmers to improve crop efficiency and fulfill SDG 1, 2, 3, 8, and 10;
 - b. To increase private and public investments for the continuation and advancement of technologies;
 - c. To reduce restrictions on land tenure to enable local farmers in the production of crops and other forms of agricultural income;
4. *Recalls* the United Nations World Economic Situation and Prospect of 2014, the creation of more accessible as well as affordable/low-cost livelihood needs to combat the issue of the lack of agricultural commodities, which would help rural workers in the agricultural fields, through ways such as but not limited to mitigating taxes, and tariffs for farming-related expenses/goods such as sustainable Seeds, modern Agriculture Tools, hydroponics;
5. *Recommends* the training and skill-based knowledge sharing through the implementation of a transfer system so those living in extreme poverty can have access to educational programs such as but not limited to:
 - a. Continuous establishment of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs and Agricultural Educational Training (AET) to increase productivity and efficiency in rural areas within their already existing labor force be made an option for states struggling;
 - b. Initiating a youth-led voluntary collective-learning program focusing on literacy and verbal ability workshops with the guidance of the United Nations Youth Associations to define and enhance their real-world and modern life skills to lessen the disparity between the urban and rural areas;
6. *Further invites* Member States to establish social safety net programs providing financial assistance to low-income households, and recommends the further implementation of the Grant Application Guide for Rural Communities, deriving, for instance, from the sale of rural products or from progressive taxation on high-income earners, which can be leveraged as financial resources and can be virtually accessed on the website relating to the transformation centers as well as through physical advertisement;

7. *Recommends* Member States under the Lower Middle Income and Low-Income Demographics Economic relief programs that ensure financial stability and protect rural communities with quick disaster response initiatives in case of extreme weather events or natural disasters:
 - a. To further support for the *International Fund for Agricultural Development* (IFAD), which is dedicated to the eradication of rural poverty and hunger in developing countries;
 - b. To improve access to rural areas and lowering costs of transportation to facilitate improved market access;
8. *Suggests* the merging of IFAD's Rural Poor Stimulus Facility and the Private Sector Financing Programme fund as IFAD's general fund, to broaden access to rural financial services supporting small-scale farmers and ensuring sustainable agriculture;
9. *Calls upon* the Equal Pay International Coalitions' (EPIC) programs to assist LEDCs with Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) development in rural areas through providing essential financial and technical support to address initial implementation challenges through the aid of Local Government Units within the state;
10. *Encourages* Member States to establish Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) programs, as a form of project delivery method, to build large-scale infrastructure, create jobs in the rural community, and keep the ownership of the economy local while securing foreign investment;
11. *Recommends* Member States collaboration through the Broadband Commission and the Private Sector Financing Program (PSFP) to provide investments through the private sector to increase access to essential connectivity services:
 - a. Utilizing similar programs as the joint UNCTAD program, Train for Trade II to incentivize private companies to bring highly needed industry training to areas lacking education and employment;
 - b. Under the UNCTAD Train for Trade II program, is the training course EMPRETEC: SME which educates the populous on how investing works to not only better the local economies but also bring forth the development of an Entrepreneurship Policy Framework;
12. *Encourages* the implementation of smart water irrigation systems such as drip irrigation in water-deprived developing states in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to:
 - a. Maximize the usage of already scarce water resources and mitigate the amount of water loss from agriculture;
 - b. Apply water-saving technologies in rural areas such as those introduced in the Handbook on Pressurized Irrigation Techniques presented by the FAO;
 - c. Increase economic and allocative efficiency by using resources optimally;
 - d. Create a strong long-term profit margin stemming from the implementation of sustainable agricultural principles;

13. *Encourages* Member States to invest in collaboration with the OECD and IMF in local projects focusing on the assurance and protection of clean water supply, such as:
 - a. Funding for more functional and renovated facilities;
 - b. Establishment of expert panels;
 - c. Equal distribution of water filters through public distribution centers to prevent the spread of diseases caused by water consumption;

14. *Encourages* the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to implement a Rural Infrastructure Programme (RIP), financed by the Enhanced Integrated Frameworks Trust Fund (EIFTF) and Rapid Financing Instruments, aimed at making rural infrastructure resilient and robust, by:
 - a. Identifying and investing in sustainable technologies such as hydrogen and other renewable, and reliable energy sources to reduce the volatility and fluctuation of energy and power outages, to be implemented following the recommendations from the Council of Engineers for the Energy Transition (CEET), UN-Energy, and the UNDP External Advisory Group for Energy Governance to ensure adherence to the net zero emissions goals;
 - b. Bolstering transportation infrastructure in rural areas to streamline the transportation of valuable goods and utilities, abating extreme transportation costs triggered by lack of access to main routes, and interconnecting localities, to be implemented following guidelines by LearnITC, the E-Learning platform developed by the United Nations Economic Commission of Europe (UNECE) for assisting member states in the implementation of sustainable transport and trade connectivity policies;
 - c. Building resilient digital infrastructure within rural communities, to be implemented by the UNDP Global Center to:
 - i. Ease access to healthcare professionals by expanding the Grassroots Telemedicine initiative by the UNDP to include rural areas beyond the Asian continent for improved healthcare outcomes in rural areas;
 - ii. Gain Market visibility and leap into global markets, increasing the addressable markets and income returns of local communities;
 - iii. Access extensive educational resources for innovation of current practices, identification of new enterprising opportunities, and enhancing affordable access to experts;

15. *Asks* the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to collaborate with local governments and communities to enable rural modern hubs through the enhancement of infrastructure and basic amenities in rural areas tailored to the socio-economic and cultural context of rural communities, these rural modern hubs entail facilities, such as but not limited to electricity, water and sanitation, waste disposal, healthcare services, established financial institutions connected to a wider system, vocational and educational institutions;

16. *Invites* UN Women and the WHO to collaborate long-term in expanding and allocating resources to Universal Health Coverage (UHC) to improve gender-equitable healthcare and its connected

infrastructure and services in rural regions as well as education to specifically target sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), funded by the WHO, to:

- a. Recruit and train female healthcare workers, including midwives and community health workers, to improve access to healthcare services for rural women;
 - b. Provide and renovate menstrual hygiene management facilities in provincial communities to ensure girls' uninterrupted access to education;
 - c. Establish mobile health clinics and telemedicine initiatives to improve healthcare accessibility in remote rural areas, leveraging technology to connect patients with healthcare providers;
17. *Invites* the active participation of indigenous peoples, women, and youth through a board of international expert panels to establish a constant stream of knowledge with the help of the UN-Water's coordination through the support of the United Nations and Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights under the UNHCR, such as but not limited to water scarcity, diseases caused by water consumption, sanitary services;
18. *Suggests* Member States build education centers for lifelong learning, including but not limited to schools and training centers to educate the local population and improve the local workforce- these centers will be operated locally, much in line with BOOT so that teaching staff will be localized in order to:
- a. Improve financial and digital literacy, vocational training, and the implementation of new sustainable farming techniques through partnerships with family-owned farms and businesses;
 - b. Connect rural communities to information and peer guidance on legal matters to protect them against fraudulent activity and help them thrive in complicated bureaucratic business environments;
 - c. Provide basic everyday products as well as general knowledge about sustainable land management and the financial market;
 - d. Emphasize the distribution of knowledge on SDGs and how they can be implemented in everyday lives so that their status is further elevated in rural areas;
 - e. Help alleviate brain drain and improve the local economy;
 - f. Focus on elementary, secondary, and post-secondary in rural areas in which women and children are most affected, with the purpose of creating and expanding agrobusiness, fisheries, and the tourism industry, which aim to lower rural poverty in the Member States;
19. *Emphasizes* the importance of education to provide women with autonomy to alleviate themselves from poverty:
- a. By providing further support to women in rural communities and ensuring equitable access to opportunities through workshops that inform women of their rights;

- b. By encouraging Member States to participate in educational and cultural exchange programs that target underserved communities through partnerships with secondary education and universities;
- 20. *Endorses* collaborative effort between Member States and non-profit organizations (NPOs), such as the FAO's Humanitarian Organization for Poverty Eradication, to:
 - a. Give access to educational opportunities by providing resources from Member-States with major developed economies;
 - b. Allow for more financial assistance to encourage the development of more countries in need by simplifying bureaucratic processes and providing taxation incentives;
- 21. *Recommends* Member States to aid an expansion of the Doha Programme of the UN, with regards, to:
 - a. Obtain greater access to career development opportunities through resources of larger economically sound Member States;
 - b. Bring Member States together to effectively address key indicators of poverty to ensure all issues that lead to poverty are combatted;
- 22. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and domestic and international economic experts to collaborate through knowledge-sharing research on the following topics, inter alia market Linkage, microfinance services and credit facilities, digital platforms for market accessibility;
- 23. *Further allocates* WHO funds for necessary renovations of training and healthcare facilities, ensuring they are equipped with essential medical supplies and personnel to meet the needs of the local population;
- 24. *Recommends* Member States collaborate with IGOS and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for aid in securing climate-resilient farming practices, so that they not only ensure food security but also help create a sustainable economy through:
 - a. Sharing information on sustainable methodologies and technology;
 - b. Providing learning programs and relevant volunteer experience opportunities;
- 25. *Calls upon* more investment and active cooperation and coordination from Member States to small-scale farmers under the Smallholder and Agri-SME Finance and Investment Network (SAFIN) supported by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) with the aim to:
 - a. Build more resilient, diverse, and sustainable economies;
 - b. Lower rural poverty more effectively also with a focus on key indicators of it;
 - c. Have an effective monitoring mechanism to sustain access to water resources for irrigation in rural areas;
 - d. Boosts agricultural productivity to ensure food and nutrition security, the creation of jobs, and overall economic growth;

- e. Implement more climate-resilient farming practices that facilitate agricultural development in the face of climate change or other climate shocks;
26. *Further recommends* local communities to implement policies geared toward increasing the proportion of women in land possession and collect data on female participation by:
- a. Expanding the Equator Initiative within the UNDP to address institutional barriers to women's participation in the agricultural economy;
 - b. Commissioning the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and United Nations Civil Society to address the gaps in intelligence by collecting data at a grassroots level;
27. *Calls on* the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to establish a more comprehensive global picture of rural areas and an expert cooperation mechanism through:
- a. Collecting rural data such as soil, water, temperature, and humidity and ensuring the data will not be used in any other way;
 - b. The use of Artificial Intelligence technologies to assess agrometeorology including the estimation of climate and population of rural areas in each Member State, in order to get the most efficient type of agri-food systems for the region;
28. *Advocates* for global multilateral cooperation to jointly develop and promote Climate-Smart Agriculture practices and policies for rural family farms in developing countries under the framework of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028) through:
- a. Enhancing the collaboration of the FAO of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);
 - b. The implementation of CSA education and technical training programs, focusing on sustainable agriculture practices and climate change adaptation techniques;
29. *Further invites* prudent multinational and national investment and extend existing lines of credit to locally financial-focused institutions which have been proven to benefit rural areas with adherence to internationally established norms and procedures by:
- a. Calling on Member States to support the Secretary-General in accomplishing the USD 100 Billion Goal proposed in the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) in order to bolster efforts in mitigation actions and transparency on implementation of UN Climate Goals in developing countries;
 - b. Optimizing the funds allocated by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in establishing and executing CSA initiatives as a strategy to combat climate change to alleviate rural poverty;
 - c. Further exploring youth financial education as discussed in *Gamification for financial education: building resilience through play* (2023);
30. *Emphasizes* creating regional and global collaboration to enhance effective and sufficient Risk Reduction strategies as outlined in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) and its predecessor, the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015):

- a. By holding conferences and workshops that address Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) techniques and invite Member States to contribute their successful experiences to other Member States with underdeveloped DRR;
 - b. To encourage Member States to include representation inclusive of vulnerable communities, especially indigenous peoples;
 - c. Meeting biannually with one cooperative Member State overseeing the functioning of both meetings with a six-month window between meetings to enable the sharing of ideas and progress checks;
31. *Exhorts* Member States to facilitate trade between rural communities and the private sector to open up new economic opportunities through:
- a. Creating local frameworks that support entrepreneurs in the rural and underdeveloped areas to gain and develop business skills to maintain and expand on their careers as well as provide job assurance;
 - b. Having internships and educational workshops on business, arts, and finance, especially focusing on gender equity to educate women on their rights and autonomy;
32. *Reiterates its call upon* international organizations to implement comprehensive development programs addressing various dimensions of poverty to create a conducive environment for sustainable development by:
- a. Following the examples of The Asian Development Bank (ADB) in conjunction with the Philippines Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) successfully ensured the recovery of those living in rural poverty by creating technical programs to assist in educating the rural poor about business planning and management and housing for those eligible after the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - b. Following the example of The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) which has brought rural infrastructure and sustainable land usage practices to African Member States because of its overarching goal of eliminating hunger and reducing poverty;
 - c. Emphasizing the need to maintain the continuous decline of poverty, particularly through local and regional frameworks that are focused on rural development and created by either Member States or Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs);
 - d. All local and regional initiatives should be co-financed alongside IGOs by Member States or funded directly by IGOs, additionally, Member States should also adopt frameworks supported by UN bodies or advocated by IGOs.



Code: GA2/1/7

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Eradication of Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Acknowledging the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a particular focus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) no poverty (SDG1), quality education (SDG4), affordable sustainable energy for all (SDG7), decent work and economic growth (SDG8), reduced inequalities (SDG10), strengthening communities (SDG11), and partnerships for the goals (SDG17), as the boons against the trap that rural poverty presents to the people of today and succeeding generations with the understanding that they must be pursued in compliance with a gender equal perspective (SDG5),

Further acknowledging, with specificity, 2030 Agenda targets regarding equal rights and ownership to economic resources (1.4), building resilience to climate extreme events (1.5), ensuring the mobilization of resources (1.a), education and skill-learning (4.4, 4.7) on sustainable tourism (8.9) as a way to eradicate rural poverty, reducing gender inequalities amongst countries (4.5), by reducing the cost of remittances to the projected goal of 3% (10.c), finally considering with foresight those pertaining to decent work and economic growth and confirming support for decreasing youth unemployment and protection of labor rights for women (5.5) & youths in rural communities,

Also reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a crucial framework comprised of human-centered, wide-ranging set of transformative and impactful SDGs as a force for the eradication of rural poverty, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in the economic, social, and environmental dimensions, and to the development of sustainable solutions for all,

Recalling the principles enshrined in the UN Charter of the United Nations, which reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Recognizing the UN Charter to the Rights of Development (1986) highlights the people's right to self-determination through Article 1 as an implication of the human right to development which is the entitlement of individuals to participate and contribute to cultural, economic, political, and social development,

Acknowledging Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) of 1948, stating that elementary and fundamental stages of education need to be free and that higher levels must be available for all, keeping in mind that education is a basic right for all,

Recognizing the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and its dedication to transforming rural economies through agriculture thanks to its role in supporting small-scale agriculture and rural development, thereby contributing significantly to global efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger,

Noting the importance of regional trade agreements such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) as well as the United Nations Treaty Handbook for their role in regional economic development and resource sharing,

Commending Member States for their participation in international partnerships that aim to address the unique challenges of Member States such as the *Mountain Partnership* which seeks to address the economic, social, and environmental issues associated with mountainous regions,

Highlighting the success of the *Rural Development Programme* managed by the *European Network for Rural Development* which enables robust discussion and collaboration among Member States despite geographic and demographic differences,

Reaffirming the need to synergize efforts between Global South developing states and developed nations to develop multifaceted and comprehensive solutions to the most salient challenges to addressing rural poverty,

Noting with great concern that, according to the World Bank, 700 million people around the globe are living in extreme poverty, with rural communities being disproportionately affected,

Underlining the continuous negative impact of climate change towards rural communal and family farms and landowners which drives the exasperation of poverty,

Reaffirming the resolution 77/178 (2022), entitled “Promotion of sustainable and resilient tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection”, which states that sustainable tourism helps contribute to sustainable development, preservation of biodiversity and the well-being of local communities knowing that rural populations rely heavily on the health of the environment for reliable access to the raw resources they depend on for their livelihoods,

Taking into consideration the *Global Code of Ethic for Tourism* by the UN General Assembly World Committee on Tourism Ethics, particularly article 3 on tourism as a factor of sustainability development and article 5 on tourism as a beneficial activity for host countries and communities, while noting the needed attention toward rural regions,

Acknowledging the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)’s campaign for *Water Policy and Strategy*,

Reiterating the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)’s *Strategy for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth* (2017) and General Assembly resolutions 244/73 (2018) and 237/74 (2019),

Appreciating the work by the UNDP Accelerator Labs in their effort to accelerate progress towards the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,

Deeply concerned by the challenges posed by the low wages and lack of opportunities for gainful employment for the rural poor,

Acknowledging the efforts of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) Migration and Remittance Program by assisting LDCs in the development of their economies supplementing existing sources of capital assistance by means of grants and loans,

Recalling the importance of international cooperation on the promotion of education, as stated in the Article 13 of the *United Nations Charter* as in the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)*,

Reiterating the rights of global Indigenous populations through the United Nations Declaration 61/295 on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) (UNDRIP),

Applauding the success of projects such as the Honduras Education Quality, Governance, & Institutional Strengthening Project that focus on the needs of local communities and regional areas, knowing that people and communities in different parts of the world have differing needs that require more intimately tailored solutions not only with regards to increasing education opportunities, but all aspects of sustainable development,

Emphasizing the necessity of establishing collaborations between academic institutions and government organizations to maximize the impact of community-driven educational programs,

Recognizing the indispensable nature of women's rights in the pursuit of the eradication of rural poverty, in accordance with the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*, knowing that women bear multifaceted and layered responsibilities to their children, families, and communities as they are disproportionately affected by rural poverty,

Recalling resolution 74/223 (2019) to provide inclusive and equitable education at all levels for all people without discrimination, emphasizing the importance education has in eradicating poverty and creating long-lasting economic opportunities,

Understanding the importance of providing equal education opportunities for indigenous rural communities, recognizing that they are often excluded from communities and societies,

Bearing in mind the support that the Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) provide in supporting rural communities across the world, specifically focusing on the educational aspects, bringing many of these rural areas a global education that is affordable and accessible to all,

Reaffirming the efforts of the United Nations Office of the Secretary General's Envoy on Technology on the importance of safely engaging with AI-technologies in accordance with the *Bletchley Declaration on AI safety* and referencing the High-Level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence's *Interim Report: Governing AI for Humanity* and adhering to General Assembly resolution 78/265 (2024),

1. *Recommends* the UNDP to further enhance the UNDP Accelerator Labs due to their ground action on localized development and their understanding of the specific needs of local communities and thus work on identifying and combating development challenges to close the gap between the current practices of international development in combating rural poverty, by:
 - a. Identifying the various regional and multifaceted origins of rural poverty and gather additional data of underrepresented communities and people;
 - b. Establishing a subgroup within the regional UNDP Accelerator Labs offices solely focusing on origins of rural poverty and providing assistance, consisting of diverse stakeholders such as experts, civic societies, marginalized groups, and Member States representatives;
 - c. Highlighting the importance of including women, migrants, youth, indigenous communities, those with disabilities, and other marginalized groups at each stage by requesting an annual report from United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) on the UNDP Accelerator Labs' success in educational training and engaging with women;

- d. Inviting the UNDP to look into using their voluntary fund regarding the Accelerator Lab and additionally leveraging the UNCDF, Joint SDG funds, Member States local governments and welcoming private entities financial support;
2. *Further recommends* the UNDP Accelerator Labs to assist Member States' local governments and organizations in assigning staff with the task of educating their rural communities in topics set by the Member State and Subgroup members according to their communities priorities and needs in order to more intimately address the challenges these rural communities are afflicted by:
 - a. Focusing in the educational programmes on, but not limited to, land allocation, effective resource management, entrepreneurship skills, as well as sustainable and climate-resilient agricultural practices;
 - b. Training the staff, predetermined through the cooperation of the UNDP Accelerator Labs and rural regional communities, by the aforementioned subgroup of the Accelerator Labs to perform outreach and educate groups at risk through methods tailored to the specific circumstances of these communities, including but not limited to community centers, schools and online learning platforms;
 - c. Involving Private and Public Partnerships (PPP) throughout the process and collaborating with businesses engaged in the designated problem areas, such as agribusiness experts to provide support in training small-scale farmers in rural areas on modern farming techniques, sustainable agriculture, and precision agriculture;
 - d. Collaborating with private sector experts to develop and deploy digital platforms that facilitate market access for small-scale farmers, enabling direct selling opportunities and better market pricing;
3. *Recommends* the implementation of water efficiency systems like drip water irrigation per United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in rural areas to maximize agricultural efficiency and to ensure long-term availability of water, acknowledging that water is a human right often barred from the poor by extraordinary circumstances, by:
 - a. Providing capacity building programs through professional affiliated leading institutes and the establishment of professional training programs, short and long-term expert consultants and specialized local training centers;
 - b. Fostering knowledge-sharing and technology transfer programs among Member States that are familiar with drip irrigation to exchange lessons learned and innovative solutions, aiding rural areas in building their technological capabilities;
 - c. Encouraging international organizations, governments, and NGOs to provide technical assistance with the implementation and long-term maintenance of those technologies overseen by the UNEP;
 - d. Investing in the development and dissemination of training programs overseen by the UNEP and extension services focusing on the education of farmers on the design, installation, operation, and maintenance of drip irrigation systems;
 - e. Allocating dedicated funds from national budgets or international development assistance for the implementation of drip irrigation technology in rural areas;

- f. Suggesting targeted subsidy programs or financial incentives to reduce the upfront costs of drip irrigation systems for smallholder farmers and marginalized communities and suggests Member States, in the way that they see fit, to implement policies that contribute to the following goals;
 - g. Increased investments into logistical and digital infrastructure in rural areas to expand the market access of rural producers while minimizing the impact of transport costs;
 - h. Local Government support of small-scale farmers' produce across regional areas increase local knowledge and promotes local competition, driving down prices;
 - i. Promoting and educating on the benefits of healthy financial practices through voluntary government information initiatives;
4. *Advises* collaboration with the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) Migration and Remittance Program for small-scale and developing Member States in working towards SDG 10.c of reducing transaction costs for migrant remittances to less than 3 percent, due to rural communities experiencing higher costs of remittances hindering the work towards the eradication of rural poverty, by:
- a. Advising a report every two years to be conducted by the UNCDF to explore the impact of remittance service fees on Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in order to inform future changes to service fee use by Member States;
 - b. Recommends Member States to reduce barriers on transactions through, but not limited to, the provision of access to digital remittances as a new initiative to promote faster, less expensive, and more accessible cash remittance transfers;
 - c. Paying particular special attention to rural communities and marginalized groups;
5. *Further advocates* on knowledge sharing between Member States, particularly focusing on marginalized groups in rural areas using established knowledge-sharing frameworks like the UN SDG *Voluntary National Review* or the Educational Program for Developing Rural Tourism (EPDRT) to aid Member states and encourages:
- a. Member States to work together in knowledge sharing, financial and technical support, and infrastructure building;
 - b. Partnerships to aim at teaching resilience and innovation between Member States;
 - c. The strengthening of Member States in areas like agriculture, water, public health, entrepreneurship and education;
 - d. Emphasizing the importance of SIDS needs as Member States whose economies focus in tourism would benefit from the partnership between Member States;
6. *Encourages* Members States to further protect touristic and historical sites from natural disasters experienced in rural areas with the aim to create increased rural revenue and uplift rural communities by adhering to the Blue Flag accreditation programme in collaboration with the *Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC)*;

7. *Seeks to enable* the use of technologies based on artificial intelligence (AI) in rural areas, enabling farmers to foresee droughts and other potentially harmful weather phenomena, to optimize resource usage, improve crop yields, and reduce costs by:
 - a. Analyzing data from sensors, drones, and satellite imagery to provide insights into soil health, crop health, and irrigation needs, helping farmers make informed decisions and maximize productivity;
 - b. Providing access to agricultural knowledge through AI-driven platforms using machine learning algorithms to deliver personalized recommendations on crop management, pest control, and market trends, empowering smallholder farms to enhance their skills and profitability overseen by the High-Level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence;
 - c. Encouraging the allocating of dedicated funds from national budgets or international development assistance for the implementation of AI systems in rural areas;
8. *Encourages* Member States to codify labor rights and safe working conditions for all workers in accordance with SDG Target 8.8 as well as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, ensuring the safety of laborers living in rural poverty;
9. *Emphasizes* the need to promote data literacy among rural areas, noting the technological divide that those in poverty, especially rural poverty, experience, and promotes the advancement of technological infrastructure of rural areas through recommendations to the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), which include:
 - a. Further emphasizing the key pillars of the UN Technology Bank for LDCs and the UN Science and Technology Organization (UNSTO), which highlight the technological challenges faced by the international community with particular focuses on rural communities by;
 - b. Establishing collaboration with NGOs such as the International Agency for Rural Industrialization, which seeks to:
 - i. Fund the technological advancement of rural areas;
 - ii. Streamline the connection of rural networks for information and data with existing international frameworks;
 - iii. Provide best practices for data research and synthesis in order to promote effective methods of research and implementation for poverty-alleviating solutions in rural areas;
10. *Encourages* the *United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (OLA)* to update the UN Treaty Handbook to explicitly include all SDGs and their respective targets in its language to:
 - a. Promote the implementation of the SDGs, particularly SDG 1, SDG 7, and SDG 11, as it relates to rural poverty by stressing the importance of the inclusion of sustainable practices in the furtherment of trade agreements and general international relations, especially if said actions impact development or urbanization in rural communities;

- b. Suggest that Member States utilize unique international treaties and trade agreements with LDCs, Landlocked Developing countries (LLDCs), and SIDS through unique partnerships and agreements to eradicate poverty and achieve the goals;
 - c. Continue knowledge-sharing efforts that seek to address social, economic, and environmental drivers of inequality and poverty;
- 11. *Encourages* Member States to continue addressing the unique challenges facing SIDS in regard to rural poverty in the international fora, and to work towards the achievement of the SDGs in vulnerable countries, with consideration for the well-being of migrants from SIDS who faces challenges in situations of deracination and displacement by:
 - a. Supporting their participation in relevant international negotiations, including the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* (UNFCCC) and the *Convention on Biological Diversity* (CBD);
 - b. Increasing international collaboration and partnerships between SIDS and development partners, including international organizations, NGOs, and the private sector to mobilize resources and expertise for rural development initiatives;
 - c. Ensuring that local voices in SIDS are heard and their concerns are addressed in global decision-making processes, acknowledging that the geographical remoteness of SIDS has caused challenges in the sustainable development progress;
 - d. Voluntarily inviting capable Member States to support migrants from SIDS in categories such as monetary, housing, food security, and more, to further uplift these individuals;
- 12. *Encourages* the discussion of establishing and connecting rural areas to electric, hydro, telecommunications, and infrastructure in order to alleviate burdens on the initial phases of construction and development in the upcoming GA Global Stocktaking on 19 April 2024 towards affordable, clean energy for all (SDG7) that:
 - a. Recognizes the need to respect regional sovereignty as well as the topographical needs and limitations of specific regions;
 - b. Promotes collaboration with UN-Energy to ensure the fair and equitable development and distribution of joint energy production between and within Member States;
- 13. *Supports* the development of governmental arrangements to enable the design, implementation, and monitoring of coordinated multi-sectoral policies to increase resilience against economic shocks that are transparent, inclusive, and integrate local concerns in policy dialogue and economic development processes;
- 14. *Invites* Member States to collaborate with the World Bank and regional development banks to increase access to affordable credit and financial services for rural communities, focusing on small farms, women, and youth to stimulate entrepreneurship, allowing rural communities their opportunities for ownership;
- 15. *Encourages* Member States to, in the ways that they see fit, plan, and execute projects and initiatives that are designed to fit the needs of local communities, knowing that the challenges

different people face does not always cut across cultures in the hopes that all people, especially women and children, may gain the resources they need to uplift their communities;

16. *Further urges* Member States to continue and increase, within their possibilities, financial and logistical support to already existing NGOs working to create educational opportunities for rural communities, knowing that supporting already existing infrastructure and systems will more urgently assist those in poverty than the conception and execution of new organizations and bodies with specific emphasis on:
 - a. Decreasing the digital divide in rural communities;
 - b. Empowering young people in rural areas to create innovative agricultural solutions;
 - c. Educating vulnerable communities such as youth, women, and indigenous populations on the rights granted to them;
17. *Calls for* the holistic improvement of basic needs, infrastructure, education systems, and healthcare services in rural areas, aligning with the principles of sustainable development, to cultivate an environment that enables the youth generation to thrive and contribute to the sustainable growth of their rural communities, thereby reducing the migration pressure towards urban centers;
18. *Suggests* the implementation of a UN training program for marginalized communities in rural areas, such as, but not limited to, women and indigenous people, under the supervision of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) by:
 - a. Providing specialized skills and knowledge by professionals in fields such as artisanry, agriculture, economics, and more through the partnership between these communities, the UN, and NGOs such as Cultivate and Harlem Grown;
 - b. Inviting all willing Member States, the private sector, and NGOs to contribute financially to this initiative;
19. *Recommends* the establishment of local community organizations by Member States, such as but not limited to El Salvador's CUBO program, where the government allocates funds for the creation of new *Centers for Urban Wellbeing and Opportunities* across the country in order to empower neglected groups and foster growth opportunities, by:
 - a. Providing them with a safe place to develop academically away from violence, as well as develop culturally by providing the organizations with books and games to interact with other children;
 - b. Encouraging other Member States, NGOs, and the World Bank to support local community organizations with funding;
 - c. Establishing a scholarship fund to encourage women and marginalized groups to enter graduate programs and degrees;
20. *Urges* this assembly to abide by the Human Rights Council 8/4 resolution regarding limiting obstacles to access to education, explicitly affecting refugees, immigrants, and indigenous communities, encouraging nations to include these marginalized groups in legislative decisions regarding education to uplift communities from severe acute poverty;

21. *Requests* for the implementation of programs in collaboration with NGOs that provide supplemental learning for those who have had a disrupted education due to exclusion, conflicts, illnesses, lack of income, homelessness, poverty, and various other reasons;
22. *Encouraging* Member States to be inclusive in their education programs regarding indigenous populations by implementing indigenous and local cultures and languages into education programs, thereby incentivizing these communities to join national and global education systems;
23. *Calls upon* the need to take into account that many in areas affected by severe acute poverty are unable to gain an education due to being a vital contribution to the incomes of their households, encouraging Member States to improve or create ways of access to supplemental education programs that allow for individuals to gain an education while being providers of themselves or their families;
24. *Further urges* Member States to create opportunities that uplift and empower women around the world directly with regards to education, profoundly considering the diverse needs of communities located in all places around the world, knowing that poverty cuts across not only gender but culture and geography, in the pursuit of eradicating rural poverty knowing that women play an indispensable role in their communities and are actively being deprived of fundamental human rights that perpetuate their exclusion from society;
25. *Urges* Member States to create a policy that increases women's equitable access to quality healthcare in order to alleviate the stressor of declining health and lack of bodily autonomy from their lives in the hopes that their empowerment will play a key role in the eradication of rural poverty;
26. *Recommends* levels of higher education that reach out to women specifically, creating a robust network between higher education and secondary education to encourage women and other marginalized populations to connect with alumni networks and programs involving the public and civic sector by:
 - a. Bringing programs to areas without secondary education to bring foundational skills to underserved communities;
 - b. Acknowledging cultural requirements that may limit women entering this field by bringing education to mothers.



Code: GA2/1/8

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Recognizing the need for a multidisciplinary and Member State specific approach in order to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1),

Reaffirming the commitment to the Sustainable Development Goal 1 (SDG 1) adhering to the Millennium Development Goals, to end poverty by elevating sustainable agriculture and promote education,

Referring to Article 25 and 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which affirm that all persons have the right to education and an adequate standard of living,

Recognizing the need for a multidisciplinary and Member State specific approach in order to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1),

Affirming the importance of agricultural trade policies, such as those proposed by the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), to implement Sustainable Development Goal 1,

Noting efforts by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to pursue sustainable economic growth, including those targeting enterprise development, investment, and trade agreements,

Appreciating the work that the international community, has already done to promote and adopt sustainable agricultural practices, notably the Zero Hunger Challenge which calls for 100% adequate food all year round from sustainable agricultural systems,

Recognizing the importance of collaboration with local communities and respecting state sovereignty as stated in the *Charter of the United Nations*,

Recognizing that solutions to eradicating rural poverty will require country-specific insight to meet the needs of rural communities, as stated by the SDG 1 2022,

Recognizing the lack of inclusive measures in education and the quality, therefore, provides a distinct barrier to gender equality, poverty eradication, and equal opportunities,

Bearing in mind the intrinsic connection between rural poverty and gender inequality,

Underlining the need for the implementation of technology within rural school systems to increase widespread access to education, as a means to combat rural poverty,

Bearing in mind that the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development dataset (OECD) states 33% of those aged fifteen through nineteen are enrolled and in general upper secondary education,

Seeking the establishment of lower and higher education in rural areas, through the OECD,

Mindful of the disproportionate impact of climate change on rural areas, recognized in the General Assembly's seventy-eight session,

Alarmed and concerned by the 26 million people forced into poverty due to the devastating effects of natural disasters, according to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR),

Acknowledging the United Nations Development Programme Disaster Risk Reduction success in governmental, private, and NGO collaboration,

Regrets the absence of global frameworks and cooperation to allow preparedness for natural disasters, causing the loss of assets and causing poverty,

Noting the success of the economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Early Warning Technologies and Practices such as Early Warning and Response Network (ECOWARN), as well as the Economic Social Commission of Asia and the Pacific's Asia Pacific Disaster Risk Network (APDRN) and the need for the implementation of global strategies,

Calling for international cooperation in the development, sharing, and implementation of ECOWARN and APDRN,

Emphasizing the importance of inclusivity and accessibility in the implementation of Early Warning Systems (EWS), ensuring that EWS is accessible to vulnerable populations including those in rural areas,

Recognizing global partnerships, such as the Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction of which the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations University - Institute, Environment and Human Security are members, are essential for sharing knowledge, resources, and technologies, especially in assisting rural regions and countries that are most vulnerable to disasters,

Further recalling the Voluntary Guidelines of Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, which affirms the need for adequate land reforms addressing the needs of the beneficiaries,

Emphasizing how the climate crisis further exacerbates extreme weather variations, as well as terrestrial issues that affect the overall productivity and well-being of rural communities as mentioned in A/RES/73/244, in conjunction with eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 agenda for SDGs,

Emphasizing how the climate crisis further exacerbates extreme weather variations, as well as terrestrial issues that affect the overall productivity and well-being of rural communities as mentioned in A/RES/73/244, in conjunction with eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 agenda for SDGs,

Recognizing the participation of Multilateral Development Banks in the development of rural infrastructures and connectivity, thus aiding local economic growth,

Noting with zest the implications and actions undertaken by the World Bank through their program Impact Evaluation Program for Transport in a matter of transport development investment,

Recommends the implementation of Micro, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to areas of need such as developing Member States and territories in accordance with Goal 17 of the SDG's,

Aware of the significance of Sustainable Development Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) voicing the role of sustainable tourism in uplifting rural communities and generating their income,

Reaffirming the importance of Sustainable Development Goal 1.4, Equal Rights to Ownership, Basic Services, Technology, and Economic Resources, emphasizing equal access of all, in particular the vulnerable, the poor, and women, to ownership and control over land and economic resources,

Welcoming Member States to provide access to reliable and efficient transportation for excluded rural persons, such as that of the UN Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport,

Acknowledging the importance of programs like the OECD and Voluntary National Reviews as opportunities to find solutions through partnerships between nations; finding social, economic, and environmental solutions from the bottom up,

Having considered the different needs and contexts of the populations to ensure that solutions are implemented in an equitable, inclusive, and sustainable way with the help of The World Bank's Land Allocation for Social and Economic Development projects (LASED and LASED II),

Recalling the A/RES/77/160 on Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development,

Guided by the UN Sustainable Infrastructure Partnership (SIP) of 2019 which seeks to create research to support integrated approaches to infrastructure development,

Expressing appreciation for the work of the UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Member States, Landlocked Developing Countries, and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) in organizing and prioritizing programs targeted towards rural poverty,

Stressing the work of the UN Committee on Urban Development, Housing, and Land Management in coordinating the development of housing in rural populations is crucial to economic growth,

Appreciating the contributions of the United Nations Digital and Technology Network (DTN), to improve access to Information Communication Technologies Systems (ICTS) within disadvantaged rural communities,

Acknowledging draft resolution *A/HRC/L.15* on the critical role of innovative financial solutions in empowering women in rural areas, providing them with the necessary capital to establish their own businesses,

Emphasizing the purpose of the *United Nations Capital Development Fund's* (UNCDF) critical role of innovative financial solutions in empowering rural communities, especially women, providing them with the necessary capital to establish their own businesses,

Acknowledging the work of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in addressing frontier technologies for smallholder farmers,

Maintaining that there is still much work to be done to further the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices worldwide,

Mindful of the work done by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD),

Acknowledging A/RES/78/62 and that digital development in rural areas should be accessible given the advantages and productive efficiency technology can provide to farmers within agricultural industries,

Underscoring the vital role that *Climate-Smart agriculture (CSA)* plays in addressing these challenges through its integrated approach to managing landscapes, cropland, livestock, forestries, and fisheries,

Having studied the Paris Agreement and the foundational role it played in binding Member States towards combating climate change and fostering a sustainable future by seeking the sustained commitment from all stakeholders to meet the Paris Agreement targets,

Underscoring the vital role that *Climate-Smart agriculture (CSA)* plays in addressing these challenges through its integrated approach to managing landscapes, cropland, livestock, forestries, and fisheries,

Emphasizing with zest the importance of the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index and the role of women in consolidating their local economies,

Cognizant of the economic discrepancies, disparities, and diseconomies of scale between large and small-scale farmers, and the inequity faced between them, while being mindful of SDG 10 (reduce inequality within and among countries),

Recognizing the work of the UNDP on creating resilient value chains and the importance of autonomy and self-sufficiency in rural regions,

Further recalling the Voluntary Guidelines of Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, which affirms the need for adequate land reforms addressing the needs of the beneficiaries,

Taking note of the emergent need to sustain farming enterprises and infrastructural frameworks in accordance with, SDG 1 (end poverty in all its forms everywhere), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation for all), as well as SDG 9 (industry, innovation, and infrastructure), building resilient industries and infrastructures that foster innovation,

Considering the need for agrarian reforms to facilitate equitable access to land and natural resources and limit the concentration of land, according to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas,

Noting with deep concern with nearly half a billion small-holder farming households living in poverty according to the World Bank,

Acknowledging the goals set forth in the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Strategic Framework 2022-31,

Affirming the importance of programs like the European Union *Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)* strategic plan which support the transition towards an innovative, sustainable, competitive, and diverse agriculture sector, ensuring long-term food security to contribute to climate action, the protection of resources and biodiversity, along with strengthening rural socio-economic frameworks,

Cognizant that the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) recognizes women are responsible for 60% to 80% of food production in developing countries,

Recognizing the World Health Organization's (WHO) role in emphasizing healthcare as a fundamental right that affects the livelihood of citizens and is exasperated in rural communities,

Identifying barriers to medical care and other basic healthcare services in rural areas as addressed within clause 38 of A/RES/78/4,

Stressing the importance of the implementation of technology within the healthcare systems by the leadership of the United Nations International Emergency Child Fund (UNICEF) and the World Economic Forum (WEF) to expand access to essential services to rural communities,

Concerned by the sanitation crisis where 90 percent of rural populations practice open defecation, leading to the risk of diseases within drinking water, according to the World Bank,

Recognizing the World Health Organization's (WHO) role in emphasizing healthcare as a fundamental right that affects the livelihood of citizens and is exasperated in rural communities,

Identifying barriers to medical care and other basic healthcare services in rural areas as addressed within clause 38 of A/RES/78/4,

Stressing the importance of the implementation of technology within the healthcare systems by the leadership of the United Nations International Emergency Child Fund (UNICEF) and the World Economic Forum (WEF) to expand access to essential services to rural communities,

1. *Encourages* Member States to implement UNESCO's Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) mandates, allowing rural populations to improve their professional skills in sustainable agriculture to increase rural productivity and drive economic activity:
 - a. Suggests the focus on providing increased awareness and understanding of worsening climate events extrapolated by climate change;
 - b. Recognizes that women in rural areas with organizations such as *United Nations Women* and the *Education for Rural Peoples* (ERP) experience more challenges than several other demographics;
 - c. Invites Member States to invest in capacity-building programs to equip rural communities with the necessary skills and knowledge to engage in Ecotourism initiatives, such as hospitality services and tour guides, as a tool for rural poverty eradication;
2. *Recommends* that Member States support beneficial trade policies for rural areas by affirming policies including but not limited to:
 - a. Providing optimal trade deals with developing nations as done in the WTO's Special and Differential Treatment initiative, to incentive global trade for rural people;
 - b. Helping farmers access international trade markets done in the WTO's Standard and Trade Development Facility, to support rural people's agricultural advancement, as a means to combat poverty;
 - c. Further encouraging Member States to include women in rural areas in trade agreements and other economic activities by considering the creation of an affirmative action programme guided by the FAO providing their consent;
 - d. Assisting farmers get the information they need to reach international food trade standards as done by the FAO's Communication for Development initiatives;
3. *Calls upon* Member States to implement a knowledge-sharing partnership framework like a Voluntary National Review this framework will:

- a. Suggests partnerships between developing Member States with large sectors of rural poverty like Small Island Developing States (SIDS) with larger Member States to promote and aid in problems they are facing;
 - b. Encourages member states to contribute to programs that develop services such as insurance and loans in more favorable terms specifically for women and youth, skills trading, training local businesses in digital trade, improving infrastructure in sectors with the most poverty including the development of agriculture, water, and sanitation;
 - c. Calls upon Member States with established national climate services to share necessary information with Member States that lack that national infrastructure;
4. *Suggests* the United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization - Sustainable Development Goals Sub-Committee to consider opening additional programs in rural areas with notable levels of poverty that would aid in the creation of jobs and the general education of the people;
5. *Formally requests* the Security Council to call for a special session of the General Assembly to draft and adopt a set of international guidelines for locally focused financial institutions, including microfinance-focused banks, credit unions, and community resource management bodies in order to protect consumers and rural agriculture enterprises, in those discussions:
 - a. Encourages plans that involve the creation of self-sufficiency within a country with the intention of maintaining and fostering UN-given national sovereignty by respecting and granting space for differing norms concerning but not limited to tribal and other communal land ownership customs;
 - b. Investigates successful national and regional efforts to expand financial literacy, reduce defaults, and productive business practices with a focus on underserved rural communities;
 - c. Encourages member states to engage in efforts to augment participation rather than efforts that seek to replace or abolish local institutions that specialize in resource management and allocation;
 - d. Further Proposes to task the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs to establish an Open-Ended-Working Group on Credit Equality in Rural Areas (CERA); assigned with the responsibility to assess former methods and offer advice on more effectively initiating microloan schemes to continue discussion on those norms and continue the work done during that special session;
6. *Encourages* Member States to facilitate alternative financing options to enable easier access to financial services for marginalized populations in rural areas; these include:
 - a. Supporting Microfinance Investment Institutions (MFIs) to reduce barriers such as lack of technology, transportation, and finance education by increasing access to entry into the marketplace;
 - b. Encouraging increased collaboration between UN Women and Member States to promote women's financial empowerment;
 - c. Collaborating with the UNDP to develop digital financial solutions;

- d. Encouraging member states to establish frameworks strengthening private-public partnerships to facilitate multiple microfinancing solutions;
 - e. Encouraging collaboration between UNDP to promote sustainability best practices within rural areas to promote the creation of small and medium-sized businesses in underdeveloped regions;
 - f. Promoting agricultural finance programs that offer tailored financial products and services, including credit, insurance, and savings, to smallholder farmers, thereby enhancing food security and agricultural productivity;
 - g. Emphasizes the importance of financial literacy programs tailored for marginalized communities to enable informed financial decision-making and improve access to financial services;
 - h. Encourages the establishment of rural development funds to support infrastructure, education, and health projects, aiming at holistic community development and enhanced quality of life;
 - i. Collaborating with the UNDP, development banks, and international funds, to contribute financially to the initiatives, emphasizing the importance of shared responsibility and international solidarity in addressing rural poverty and development challenges through fiscal consolidation and other development programs;
7. *Recommends* establishing a new Rural Resilience and Prosperity Fund (RRPF) within the UNDP system that will be dedicated to supporting targeted development projects in high-risk rural areas, fostering self-reliance and long-term prosperity;
8. *Proposes* the creation of an initiative under UNEP to educate and enforce international guidelines for sustainable agriculture, hunting, and forestry:
- a. UNEP will apply grades to nations based on their adherence to sustainable agricultural practices:
 - i. Countries with high scores will receive greater incentives from UNEP;
 - ii. The criteria for sustainable agricultural practices will be decided on by UNEP;
 - b. The initiative will be advised upon by agricultural experts from a wide array of climates and backgrounds;
 - c. The initiative will provide Member States with both large and small-scale farming entities, with educational courses and recommendations on how the specific state can practice responsible agriculture in their specific climate;
9. *Further asks* the FAO to work towards the transformation of agri-food systems through its Strategic Framework through programs such as:
- a. Collaborating with the Hand-in-Hand initiative, and encouraging the development of sustainable and innovative technologies to support workers employed in the agricultural sector;

- b. Suggests improved tailored education initiatives towards rural populations in order to alleviate rural poverty;
- 10. *Calls for* Member States to invest in the implementation of irrigation systems in cooperation with the IFAD; these systems would include:
 - a. Recommends the use of pipes on farmlands would allow the waters from floats to be redirected toward water treatment plants and redistributed;
 - b. Improvement of existing water treatment plants to combat issues of water contamination and disease;
- 11. *Calls upon* the UNDRR and other relevant international bodies to provide technical assistance to implement the PPMP at the international level;
- 12. *Requests* the International Energy Agency to assist with expansions of renewable-energy infrastructure that encompasses wind farms and solar installations in the Member States to create long-lasting renewable energy sources, intended to reduce poverty inequity;
- 13. *Recommends* the creation of the 'Digital Empowerment for the Rural Development' initiative under the leadership of the DTN, to provide open access education programs for the rural youth on developing sustainable agricultural solutions;
- 14. *Calls for* the initiation of the Global Agribusiness Program (GAP) by FAO to provide upcoming entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector with assistance by:
 - a. Prioritizing job creation and income diversification to benefit rural populations;
 - b. Suggesting collaborating with Countryside Stewardship (CS) scheme to target rural areas;
 - c. Holding AgriFort, an annual summit for representatives of agricultural businesses around the world to network with one another;
 - d. Offering exclusive training courses in agribusiness, food innovation, and food management to agricultural businesses that sign on with GAP;
 - e. Building on existing frameworks to create an initiative that combines business principles with local rural agricultural practices, to fill existing gaps in agri-business to accelerate the eradication of rural poverty through:
 - i. Capitalizing on business opportunities while promoting sustainable development;
 - ii. Working through the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program to benefit society and elevate brands at the same time;
 - f. Quarterly evaluation of agricultural businesses and applying a score based on their pledge to and success in fulfilling the FAO's 5 key principles of sustainability for food and agriculture;
 - g. Incentivizing businesses to maintain a high GAP score that evaluates integrity, sustainability, and profitability, through supplemental aid directly proportional to said business's GAP score;

15. *Calls for* the continual funding of programs that provide rural and underdeveloped communities with the means to protect industries from climate and disaster risks, such as heat waves, increased storm frequencies, and other climate events through regional funding entities, like the Asian Development Bank (ADB);
 - a. Recognizes ADB Sovereign Project 51242-002 within the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
 - b. Considering the unreachd \$100 billion goal enshrined in the Paris Agreement which calls for developed countries to support “climate action” in developing countries;
 - c. Look to the “Climate Finance Framework” set forth by the Secretary-General;
16. *Encourages* Member States, in their capacity, to implement land reforms in order to promote equality between rural and urban areas by:
 - a. Providing access to land to marginalized people, minorities and women to render accessible the creation of generational wealth;
 - b. Diminishing the concentration of land ownership to ensure a more equitable wealth distribution in rural regions;
17. *Requests* that Member States allow climate change adaptation initiatives, in line with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to work with rural local entities, while respecting state sovereignty and state practices, traditions, and cultures;
18. *Further recommends* partnership of local government with Multilateral Development Banks, including, but not limited to, the World Bank and other financial investment organizations for the financing and development of small-scale transportation infrastructure projects with the goal of enhancing local economy as well as creating more connectivity between different economic communities;
19. *Recommends* willing and able Member States to provide more equal public access to public transportation by allocating funding to the transportation sector in rural areas that works to alleviate barriers to work, travel, access to basic services, and daily life;
20. *Calls upon* Member States to allocate resources and implement comprehensive sanitation programs by inviting knowledge-experts on sanitation to advise the process which is specifically tailored to the needs of rural populations;
21. *Invites* the SIP to establish and manage training courses for the installation and integration of digital infrastructure into the public administration and major community stakeholders to develop a digital information society;
22. *Suggest* Members States reorient their agricultural development investment systems in partnership with the Committee on Agriculture (COAG) to address the disadvantages regarding economies of scale between corporate-owned and small-scale farms:
 - a. Endorses the call *for* the FAO to expand the UN Decade of Family Farming Global Action Plan goals to address the discrepancies in economies of scale between large and small-

scale farms, particularly in technological innovation building on the work of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs;

- b. Encourages member states to enact a price floor for each crop through subsidies based on their regional cost of living to prevent the adverse effect of lower food prices dwindling farmers' profit;
23. *Suggests* that the UNCTAD expand its policies, such as partnering with private sectors, and establish a program dedicated to offering consulting services to:
 - a. Bolster entrepreneurship and diversify exports;
 - b. Combat barriers faced by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), especially those in the agricultural sector, such as international certification and distribution in global trade;
24. *Requests* Member States to incentivize their local national network providers and government institutions to expand the broadband networks in rural communities under the leading management of the DTN, seeking to create equal access to high-speed internet access and Wi-Fi in collaboration with funding from municipalities and private companies;
25. *Recommends* capacity building focusing on climate-smart agriculture (CSA) and farming techniques in rural areas; this is an integrated approach to managing landscape-crop land, livestock, forests, and fisheries that address the interlinked challenges of food security and climate change;
26. *Requests* the *UN-OHRLLS* to conduct natural disaster readiness assessments on Member States and guide natural disaster relief programs by:
 - a. Monitoring coastal countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) rating their risk of hurricanes and flooding or rural agriculture and informing them on resilience strategies;
 - b. Directing attention to the damage soil porosity can pose to Member States, and informing countries on the risk and potential frequency levels of landslides;
 - c. Allocating the proper guidance to Member States to allow for the best possible evacuation procedures, shelter preparations, and education regarding nations near earthquake-prone regions;
27. *Suggests* the implementation of EWS for natural disasters in a global framework and includes the aspect of technology transfer for EWMs and the role of the UN Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the negotiations for the Summit of the Future (A/RES/76/307) in 2024; Emphasizing the relevance of protecting assets in rural areas from natural disasters through enhanced preparedness;
28. *Encourages* the implementation of a Proactive Preventative Measures Program (PPMP) that:
 - a. Prioritizes climate-friendly agriculture practices and drought-resistant crop cycles through the implementation of sustainable farming methods such as crop rotation, conservation tillage, and water irrigation; And the inclusion of an early warning system against natural disasters;

- b. Call upon the UNDRR and other relevant international bodies to provide technical assistance to implement the PPMP at the international level;
29. *Invites* the SIP to establish and manage training courses for the installation and integration of digital infrastructure into the public administration and major community stakeholders to develop a digital information society;
30. *Advocates* for UNDP to assist in the developmental projects with Member States that seek to bridge gaps in transportation and quality-of-life standards allowing for road-widening, pavement improvement, and construction of new roads in rural areas that eradicate barriers to equal access;
31. *Recommends* Mobile Healthcare Services supervised by the World Health Organization (WHO), implemented in rural communities to establish easier means of healthcare accessibility;
32. *Requests* digitalization of healthcare services to be available in rural communities, allowing for equal access to medical and health opportunities under the leadership of the DTN:
 - a. Welcomes the implementation of the UNICEF initiative Family Connects International, connecting women and children to healthcare services via SMS text messages;
 - b. Further supports the World Economic Forum (WEF) initiative Transforming Healthcare Navigating Digital Health with a Value-Driven Approach Report provides a framework to increase Advanced digital and AI-driven healthcare;
33. *Extends* the Rural Health Housing model to promote healthcare programs by expanding access to basic medical services for rural communities;
34. *Encourages* Member States to ensure equal access to funding for development projects, making it a priority for those in rural areas;
35. *Recommends* that Member States help eradicate rural poverty by supporting beneficial trade policies for rural areas through affirming programs including but not limited to:
 - a. Providing optimal trade deals to emerging nations as done in the WTO's Special and Differential Treatment initiative;
 - b. Helping farmers access international trade markets done in the WTO's Standard and Trade Development Facility;
 - c. Further encouraging Member States to include women in rural areas in trade agreements and other economic activities as stipulated in the FAO's affirmative action program;
 - d. Assisting farmers in getting the information they need to reach international food trade standards as done by the FAO's Communication for Development initiatives;
36. *Suggests* that UNCTAD expand its policies, such as partnering with NGOs, and establishes a program dedicated to offering consulting services to:
 - a. Suggesting bolstering entrepreneurship and diversifying exports;

- b. Recommending combating barriers faced by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), especially those in the agricultural sector, such as international certification and distribution in global trade;
 - c. Encourages NGO and governmental cooperation in providing latrines for women, schools, and sanitation systems for rural communities;
37. *Suggests* that the Security Council call for a special session of the General Assembly to draft and adopt a set of international guidelines for locally focused financial institutions, including microfinance-focused banks, credit unions, and community resource management bodies to protect consumers and hereby, in those discussions:
- a. Encourages plans that involve the creation of self-sufficiency within a country with the intention of maintaining and fostering UN-given national sovereignty by respecting and granting space for differing norms concerning but not limited to tribal and other communal land ownership customs;
 - b. Investigates successful national and regional efforts to expand financial literacy, reduce defaults, and productive business practices with a focus on underserved rural communities;
38. *Encourages* the IFAD to promote digital literacy skills for smallholder farmers by creating a series of workshops in Member States with high agricultural production to promote efficient and sustainable use of technology for production and access to digital markets;
39. *Invites* Member States to subsidize, within their capacity, their agricultural sector based on need, as this may significantly increase sown area and crop yield, thus increasing profits, and alleviating farmers in poverty-stricken areas, by:
- a. Measuring economies of scale to create more equity within the agricultural sector;
 - b. Encourages member states to enact a price floor for each crop through subsidies based on their regional cost of living to prevent the adverse effect of lower food prices dwindling profit for farmers;
 - c. Fostering sustainable agriculture by establishing sustainable farming practices;
 - d. Empowering self-sufficiency within the agricultural sector;
40. *Encourages* Member States to increase access to credit to MSMEs based in rural communities to foster investment and enhance their economic development;
41. *Further requests* Member States to uplift women out of poverty and support and enable them to partake and get involved in agricultural development by:
- a. Establishing educational programs for women focusing on sustainable and scalable farming methods, marketing of agricultural products, and unionized representation of interest similar to the Global Partnership for Girls and Women's Education "Better Life, Better Future";

- b. Provide support for women during the adjustment process under programs like the UN's Women-led Climate Resilient Farming Model;
 - c. Recommend the adoption of land tenure for women as a universal human right by codifying women's right to own land in Article 17 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- 42. *Encourages* Member States to further support financially, and administratively and expand already existing grassroots initiatives, like the Green Hope Foundation, which provides education for Sustainable Development as a transformative tool to empower youth and adults;
- 43. *Encourages* the implementation of a Proactive Preventative Measures Program (PPMP) that:
 - a. Prioritizes climate-friendly agriculture practices and drought-resistant crop cycles through the implementation of sustainable farming methods such as crop rotation, conservation tillage, and water irrigation; And the inclusion of an early warning system against natural disasters;
 - b. Calls upon the UNDRR and other relevant international bodies to provide technical assistance to implement the PPMP at the international level.



Code: GA2/1/9

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Eradicating Rural Poverty to Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Concerned by the importance of the agricultural communities within the areas that suffer from rural poverty worldwide, it is imperative to execute sustainable policies as well as funds to help these communities thrive as outlined in *Rural Poverty in Developing Countries: Issues, Policies and Challenges*,

Recognizing the urgency of every human being to have access to fresh water, as well as proper water sanitation and awareness against saltwater invasion, which specifically affects the rural areas of the world and has an impact on agriculture, as outlined in United Nations Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat), and World Health Organization (WHO), the Right to Water Fact Sheet No. 35. (2010) and the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (1992),

Guided by the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1 (No Poverty), especially in rural areas with internally displaced people (IDP) that are vulnerable to climate and conflict related threats,

Calling attention to the 2015 *Sendai Framework For Disaster Risk Reduction* created by the United Nations General Assembly (2015) to reduce exposure and vulnerability to disaster in rural areas,

Keeping in mind SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure) due to lacking infrastructures in developing countries with deficient technologies,

Having devoted attention to SDG 10 (reduced inequalities) to further include women and youth in agricultural programs and eradicate inequality in the workforce,

Fully aware of the critical importance of SDG 2 (zero hunger), seeking sustainable solutions to end hunger in all its forms by 2030 and to achieve food security, and acknowledging the disproportionate impact of food insecurity on vulnerable rural communities,

Recognizing the need for access to financial services in rural areas, as highlighted by the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda*, and improve access to microfinance technologies and initiatives for the impoverished in rural areas as can be seen in programs by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises Agency (MSMEDA),

Reiterating the 2018 UN Youth Strategy that recognizes youth as the future and suggests governments and institutions nurture and invest in youth as a strategy for economic growth,

Expressing its concern about prolonged conflicts and climate change that are currently contributing to large-scale population displacements, as outlined in HRC resolution 50/9,

Reaffirming that violence and climate change driven displacements are disrupting agricultural activities, with people forced to abandon their land and limiting access to schools, markets and healthcare, as outlined in HRC resolution 50/9,

Reaffirming its belief in the triple nexus approach, supported by the European Union, combining sustainable development, community-involved efforts towards peace and humanitarian aid sectors in rural areas affected by poverty as an holistic approach to effectively meet peoples' needs, mitigate risks and vulnerabilities, and move toward sustainable peace,

Recognizing wars often involve forced dislocation, land confiscations, contributing to violence-driven displacement and eventual new conflicts further increasing already existing poverty for rural populations as described in *Adapting Agricultural Extension to Peacebuilding: Report of a Workshop by the National Academy of Engineering and United States Institute of Peace: Roundtable on Technology, Science, and Peacebuilding*,

Further believing in the priority of sustainable living conditions for Internally Displaced People (IDP) with a focus on rural areas as a vector to uplift these regions by taking a bottom-up approach whilst making sure to be inclusive to those in need,

Recalling that local knowledge and participation are crucial in developing effective strategies to mitigate the impacts of poverty,

Bearing in mind the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), which define Internally Displaced People as “persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized border,

1. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) for further funding towards agricultural communities within the regions that are the most affected by rural poverty through:
 - a. Financing new cropping technology related to soil management and soil conservation;
 - b. Financing tools necessary to enhance the sustainability of their practices with the help of:
 - i. UNDP in order to attain sustainable methods of cropping;
 - ii. The World Food Bank with the goal of furnishing credit for these practices;
 - c. Executing sustainable policies focused on helping the habitants of these areas to thrive;
 - d. Creating local agricultural programs for women and youth as a means of uplifting;
2. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate more actively with specialized entities to put in place guidelines to further focus on the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies tailored for enhancing food security in rural areas and invites food banks in regional towns to stock and store food to counter climate and or conflict inflicted emergencies through:
 - a. Implementing Remote Rural Food Bank (RRFB) modules to provide a framework for an exchange of information between remote rural communities;
 - b. Recommending Member States, regional authorities, and other stakeholders to collaborate with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as Global FoodBanking

network (GFN), Action Against Hunger, Oxfam, with the aim to implement sustainable strategies for food storage and distribution, with a focus on resilience-building measures;

- c. Encouraging regional governments to collaborate with agencies specializing in food security and humanitarian aid such as the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO); World Food Programme (WFP); International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) to strengthen the capacity of food banks in stocking and storing food reserves, therefore enhancing preparedness for climate and conflict-induced emergencies;
3. *Calls upon* the development of a comprehensive handbook on food transportation and preservation that would:
 - a. Insist on the formation of a multidisciplinary task force, including experts from the FAO, WFP, and relevant NGOs, to oversee the development of a comprehensive handbook focused on the latest techniques and standards in food transportation and preservation;
 - b. Outline the educational objectives of the handbook with the aim to equip stakeholders at all levels, from local farmers to government officials, with the required knowledge and skills to understand how to implement effective food transportation and preservation strategies, thereby reducing food waste and enhancing food security;
 - c. Ensure the accessibility and the usability of the handbook by committing in making the handbook in multiple formats such as print, digital and multilingual, ensuring it is a user-friendly and suitable for a wide range of the population, especially for low-resource areas;
 - d. Encourage the facilitation of the broad distribution and promotion of the handbook to Member States to form partnerships and international organizations to promote the diffusion and use through relevant educational and training programs launching global awareness campaigns using traditional and digital media platforms, to promote the availability and importance for global food security efforts;
 4. *Encourages* community-involved and locally-based efforts towards peace as a tool for rural poverty eradication and better management of land to:
 - a. Call for connection of the informal and formal legal systems in fractured postwar rural societies for claims of land property;
 - b. Support the representation of internally displaced people in peace processes by local representatives chosen by the communities;
 5. *Directs attention towards* creating Internally Displaced Population (IDP) friendly areas to gradually redesign remote camps in rural areas which would:
 - a. Be built with sustainable integration of migrants from rural areas in mind such as IDP, including but not limited to ensuring appropriate infrastructure, education and training;
 - b. Support creating community based learning opportunities that implement technological innovations in collaboration with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to:

- i. Build multi-use community centers to facilitate learning ensuring the community centers have access to technology and internet thus further connecting needful communities globally;
 - ii. Bridge the usage of community centers to provide training for food preservation and transportation;
6. *Reiterates the importance of* implementing microfinance programs within rural communities with a focal point on women and youth to:
 - a. Ensure that women and youth are provided adequate training and guidance to utilize their loans efficiently;
 - b. Create community based loan collection techniques ensuring accountability;
 - c. Focus on donors including humanitarian, development and community-based efforts for peace through their funds;
7. *Draws attention to* the Member States towards fresh water needs, water sanitation, and saltwater invasion to ensure “The Right to Water”, as a primary vector of eradication of poverty to:
 - a. Allocate resources focused on accessible water sources in regions that are most in need;
 - b. Further develop water systems in order to grant water sanitation to achieve proper water quality and access for everyone;
 - c. Recognize the importance of raising awareness of salt water invasion;
 - d. Urge sustainable techniques of filtering salt water with a regional focal while ensuring methods that allow for extraction of salt thus creating zero waste;
8. *Encourages* Member States to implement disaster relief through artificial intelligence technology to predict and warn the vulnerable populations of floods, heavy rainfall and other climate calamities paying special attention to rural areas that would:
 - a. Be influenced by early warning systems such as United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Climwarn Project, Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative and other successful programs, draw attention to the Humanitarian Data Exchange Open in order to exchange data among Member States on predictions and warnings;
 - b. Draw attention to the Humanitarian Data Exchange Open in order to exchange data among Member States on predictions and warnings;
9. *Calls upon* collaboration between Member States to prioritize investments in the education sector as a strategy to combat poverty and drive sustainable development to:
 - a. Empower future generations by enhancing human capital and fostering economic growth, acknowledging education as a cornerstone for building stronger economies and reducing poverty rate;
 - b. Highlight the correlation between higher levels of education and economic prosperity, underlining the necessity of international support;

- c. Urge the expansion of educational opportunities in underprivileged regions to ensure broad-based economic and social advancement;
10. *Strongly recommends* the establishment of crop insurance programs as a part of a social security network along with the the WFP and their R4 Rural Resilience Initiative targeted towards small farms in rural areas in order to:
- a. Support small and medium sized farms who are faced with major climate crises and are at risk of losing their crops;
 - b. Protect agriculture areas that are at risk due to violence-driven displacement;
 - c. Expand of the R4 Rural Resilience Initiative to support countries in need;
 - d. Support country and product specific measurements to guarantee food supplies.