

National Model United Nations

Week B

March 24 – March 28, 2013



United Nations
Conference on Trade and Development
Documentation

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Committee Staff

Director	Patrick Parsons
Assistant Director	Lauren Pfeifer
Chair	John Tienkin
Rapporteur	Tobias Dietrich

Agenda

1. Concrete Measures to Promote South-South Cooperation for Development
2. Harnessing Resource Extraction for Further Development Gains
3. Food Security: Agriculture and Trade

Resolutions adopted by the committee

Document Code	Topic	Vote (Y/ N/ Abstention/ Non-Voting)
UNCTAD/1/1	Water Issues	134/4/16
UNCTAD/1/2	Trade Infrastructure	103/35/16
UNCTAD/1/3	Foreign Land Acquisitions	72/54/28
UNCTAD/1/4	Food Waste	134/5/15
UNCTAD/1/5	Technology and Disaster Relief	100/37/17
UNCTAD/1/6	Agribusiness	107/18/28
UNCTAD/1/7	Millennium Villages	126/6/22
UNCTAD/1/8	Agricultural Subsidies	51/62/41
UNCTAD/1/9	Value Chain Models	109/24/21
UNCTAD/1/10	Financial Institutions	63/51/40
UNCTAD/1/11	Institution Building	97/17/40

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development held its annual session to consider the following agenda items: Concrete Measures to Promote South-South Cooperation for Development, Harnessing Resource Extraction for Further Development Gains, and Food Security: Agriculture and Trade. The session was attended by representatives of 157 Member States and 2 Observers. The session opened with several statements concerning the adoption of the agenda. At its first meeting, the Conference adopted its provisional agenda in the order of: (3) Food Security: Agriculture and Trade; (1) South-South Cooperation for Development; and (2) Harnessing Resource Extraction for Further Development Gains.

The second day, consisting of two committee sessions, started with the body splitting into Working Groups focusing on the core issue under this important topic. Many of these groups were based on regional blocks. Topical working groups discussed the issues of food waste, agribusiness, transportation, water infrastructure, commodity speculation, food price volatility, triangular cooperation, trade, foreign land acquisitions, and agricultural education. At the end of the day 10 working papers had been submitted to the dais as a first draft and some Working Groups had already started working on their first revisions. During the third day, which consisted of three long committee sessions, the delegates of the committee were able to produce a total of 18 Working Papers. During the day some groups already started merging their Working Papers to work towards more comprehensive report segments.

The seventh session mainly consisted of voting procedures. Out of the 11 draft report segments that were on the floor, 8 were adopted by the body and thereby became part of the report to the General Assembly. The dais received 3 amendments, 3 of which were friendly. No unfriendly amendments were received by the dais.

Draft report segment 1/1 highlighted the implementation of water purification, filtration, and desalination. Draft report segment 1/2 focused on infrastructure improvement to improve trade opportunities. Draft report segment 1/3 emphasized the effects of foreign land acquisitions. Draft report segment 1/4 highlighted ways to improve food security by reducing food waste. Draft report segment 1/5 addressed a broad array of topics including technology, disaster relief and education. Draft report segment 1/6 endorsed multilateral and regional cooperation and the incorporation of technology in local agribusinesses. Draft report segment 1/7 promoted the implementation of the Millennium Villages project. Draft report segment 1/8 stressed the importance of agricultural subsidies and market stability. Draft report segment 1/9 focused on combating food insecurity and price volatility by proposing an international value chain model. Draft report segment 1/10 revolved around cooperation between global financial institutions and development institutions. Draft report 1/11 emphasized institution building and education.

On Wednesday, March 27, 2012 the UNCTAD commenced the voting process and adopted 8 draft report segments.

Code: UNCTAD/1

Committee: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Subject: Food Security: Agriculture and Trade

1 **I. Introduction**

3 **A. FOOD SECURITY: AGRICULTURE AND TRADE**

5 1. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) understands that
6 water is an integral part of agriculture, the access to water must be increased for all Member
7 States, as noted in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in General Assembly Resolution
8 64/292 (A/RES/64/292). Through a clean stable water supply, agriculture can improve food
9 security.

11 2. Food insecurity and water scarcity are directly related. The Food and Agricultural
12 Organization (FAO) report, titled *Coping with Water Scarcity: An Action Framework for*
13 *Agriculture and Food Security*, depicts the need for clean water sources for agricultural
14 development and food security.

16 3. Water sanitation is a very prominent problem to international community, especially to the
17 developing world. The UNCTAD endorses A/RES/64/692, which notes the immense benefits of
18 wetland usage in all its aspects for the purpose of water sanitation, as well as promoting
19 biodiversity, improving air quality within a region, combatting desertification, and creating
20 inexpensive, alternative water purification systems. Water sanitation prevents the contamination
21 of crops, increasing usable yield.

23 4. The reuse of wastewater is necessary to allow sustainable, cost-effective agricultural growth
24 and production. The UNCTAD highlights the Birzeit University of Ramallah, Palestine report
25 *Prospects of Efficient Wastewater Management and Water Reuse in Palestine*. This report details
26 the use of artificial wetlands as an environmentally friendly filtration system that increases the
27 volume of grey water for agricultural uses, in states that do not have access to an ample water
28 supply.

30 5. Eight hundred million people do not have sufficient access to clean water, The UNCTAD
31 strongly agrees with A/RES/64/63, which calls for Member States and the International
32 Organizations to provide financial resources, build capacities and transfer technology,
33 particularly to developing countries, in scaling up efforts to provide safe, clean, accessible, and
34 affordable drinking water and sanitation for all.

36 6. To ensure fair access, cooperation between Member States is key to the uninhibited transfer
37 and access of water across borders to Member States so direly in need, as stated in
38 A/RES/63/124.

40 7. The UNCTAD stresses the importance of Human Rights Council Resolution 6/3 (A/HRC/6/3),
41 which states that non-discriminatory policies should be implemented by the United Nations and
42 other relevant sectors in relation to access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

43
44 8. The report *Transboundary Water: Sharing Benefits, Sharing Responsibilities of 2008* states
45 that the conflict of water scarcity begins with dam construction, water abstraction, chronic and
46 accidental water pollution by industries, and the neglect or non-acceptance of existing treaty
47 provisions. This report also draws attention to the benefits of multilateral cooperation between
48 Member States on the issues of shared waters to increase food production and to control hunger
49 within rural and urban areas.

50
51 9. The UNCTAD notices that there is an upward trend in water scarcity due to population growth
52 and irresponsible uses of water, as illustrated in the UN Water Programme report, *Water Issues:
53 Contributing to the Success of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Sessions of the Commission on
54 Sustainable Development of 2008*. With more responsible water conservation practices food
55 security can be ensured, poverty can be reduced and ecosystems can be conserved.

56
57 10. Responsible uses of water means investing water within sustainable crops. Crops
58 sustainability within areas of inclement weather poses a serious threat to food security. FAO
59 report *Expert Consultation on Environmental Effects of Genetically Modified Crops of June 2003*
60 highlights the benefits of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and GM Seeds (GMS) to
61 create sustainable and resilient means of food production.

62 63 **B. TRADE**

64
65 11. The *Charter of the United Nations*, specifically Articles 1.3 and Article 55 calls for
66 international cooperation on humanitarian issues. This is essential for addressing trade and food
67 security.

68
69 12. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) supports the
70 Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), especially MDG 1 to
71 eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. UNCTAD notes that trade can be vital in ensuring food
72 security through enabling the more rapid transfer of food goods. Additionally, UNCTAD notes
73 the importance of building agricultural development as a means to increase trade through
74 increasing crop yields so Member States have increased food surpluses which can be traded.

75
76 13. The UNCTAD notes the importance of addressing global food security through improving
77 Member State's capacity to trade and addressing the needs of smallholder farmers. UNCTAD
78 supports the *Comprehensive Framework for Action* from the High-Level Task Force on Global
79 Food Security as a guideline for addressing the issue of Food Security.

80
81 14. The UNCTAD recognizes the importance of increasing investment attractiveness as
82 mentioned in the *Accra Declaration* and *Accra Accord*. Increasing the investment attractiveness,
83 especially for agricultural sectors, will increase agricultural production and build the capacity for
84 developing countries to trade.

85
86 15. *A/RES/66/220* titled *Agricultural Development and Food Security* links the importance of
87 developing trade-related infrastructure as well as supporting the needs of smallholder farmers. It
88 is important to increasing cooperation between all relevant actors dedicated to increasing food

89 security such as through UNCTAD, the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), World Food
90 Programme (WFP), World Trade Organization (WTO), regional organizations, non-
91 governmental organizations, and civil society organizations.

92

93 16. The Right to Food was established in the Human Rights Council's *Resolution 7/14* as a
94 fundamental human right for all peoples. Trade is vital in ensuring this right is met for all
95 peoples by increasing access to food with improved trade practices and investment in the
96 development of the agricultural sector.

97

98 17. Aid effectiveness is important when improving trade relations and food security within
99 Member States. It is necessary that official development assistance (ODA) be directed
100 appropriately within the state, so that ODA and be directed towards agricultural development.
101 The UNCTAD supports the *Accra Accord on Aid Effectiveness* as established at the UNCTAD
102 XII in Accra, Ghana, which establishes the importance of aid effectiveness for development and
103 increasing the economies of member states.

104

105 18. *A/RES/66/190* titled *Commodities* reiterates the importance of economic diversification as a
106 means to strengthen trade within Member States. Through economic diversification, developing
107 Member States can build their economies and reduce vulnerabilities to price volatility. Economic
108 diversification will also improve the capacity of Member States to trade, and therefore increase
109 access to food and food security.

110

111 19. *A/RES/66/188* titled *Addressing Excessive Price Volatility in Food and Related Commodity*
112 *Markets* establishes that there must be efforts directed toward the reduction of excessive market
113 speculation in order to reduce price volatility. It is important to also build the capacity of
114 Member States to adapt to price volatility through strengthening market structures and trade-
115 related infrastructure.

116

117 20. The UNCTAD, being deeply worried about excessive food price volatility and its fatal
118 impacts on food security as constituted in *A/RES/66/188*, red-flags the risks indicated
119 in *A/RES/63/235* that emerge from excessive speculation on agricultural markets.

120

121 21. The *Rome Declaration on Food Security* notes the importance of reducing food waste. Food
122 storage facilities will contribute to reduced food waste and contribute to distribution capabilities
123 especially in developing and least developed Member States. The UNCTAD recognizes that the
124 reduction of food waste is important in increasing the supply of food and the attainment of food
125 security.

126

127 22. Regional cooperation and coordination is especially vital in ensuring food security. Regional
128 initiatives such as the *African Union's Maputo Declaration on Food Security in Africa* are
129 important as these set a framework for developing regional food security.

130

131 23. The 2009 *Charter of Fair Trade Principles* points out the importance of ensuring that all
132 Member States have equal access to trade and international markets. Principle One on Creating
133 Opportunities for the Economically Disadvantaged Producers and Principle Four on Payment of

134 a Fair Price are especially important in achieving food security through the development of a
135 more effective international trading system.

136
137 24. The *L'Aquila Food Security Initiative* from 2009 secured a commitment of \$20 billion
138 allocated towards financing agricultural development in developing countries. The initiative had
139 an outstanding success rate, allocating over \$20 billion dollars to agricultural development in
140 developing countries. UNCTAD recognizes that this is important to attaining food security
141 through increasing production.

142 143 **C. COMBATTING PROBLEMS IN FOOD ALLOCATION AND WASTE**

144
145 25. Cognizant of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and A/RES/66/158, the UNCTAD
146 stresses to the international community the inalienable right to food.

147
148 26. The UNCTAD acknowledges A/RES/66/288 and affirms the urgency to fully realize the
149 targets of Millennium Development Goal 1 and of the World Food Summits by acting according
150 to the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security, as stated in the Declaration of
151 the World Summit on Food Security 2009 and recalled, inter alia, in A/RES/66/220.

152
153 27. The UNCTAD firmly believes that the considerable amount of squandered food around the
154 globe is a significant barrier to food security and thus stresses the importance of reducing
155 imprudent food waste. The conference notes with concern that the estimated annual waste of
156 food reaches thirty-three percent of global food production – one-point-three billion tons out of
157 four-point-four billion tons of annually produced food – as revealed in the Global Food Losses
158 and Food Waste Study conducted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 2011.

159
160 28. As stated by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), the UNCTAD recognizes
161 that the sheer quantity of food wasted in developed countries could sustain the annual food needs
162 of citizens in multiple developing countries and combat the scourge of global starvation.

163
164 29. This conference further recognizes that most products sold to consumers are viable beyond
165 the product's expiration date as noted by the National Food Lab and the Institute of Food
166 Technologists.

167
168 30. The UNCTAD acknowledges both the European Union's 2014 initiation for combating waste
169 – named EU Against Food Waste – and the importance of regional support for ideologies and
170 goals geared towards a global effect on food waste emissions.

171
172 31. This conference recognizes work done by organizations such as the South African
173 Development Community, the Global Foodbanking Network, and the European Federation of
174 Food Banks to substantially contribute to food redistribution. Practiced by more than forty
175 countries worldwide, food banking has proven to alleviate hunger and malnutrition as well as act
176 as an effective agent of price control. The establishment, expansion, and effective use of national
177 and international food banks are of high importance to the UNCTAD and can serve in the
178 endeavor to fulfill the Millennium Development Goals.

179

180 32. Stressing the UNCTAD's Discussion Paper No. 201, referred to as
181 UNCTAD/OSG/DP/2011/1 that discusses urgent questions on food security in developing
182 countries under the challenges of climate change; thereby linking it to the transformation of
183 agriculture in harnessing clean energy and addressing sustainable waste reutilization.

184
185 **D. Infrastructure: Transportation, Water, and Utilizing Infrastructure to Combat Food**
186 **Waste**

187
188 33. The *Accra Declaration* and the associated *Accra Accord*, which are the result of the twelfth
189 United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), provide guiding vision to
190 the UNCTAD. Article 6 of the *Accra Declaration* recommitted the UNCTAD to redoubling its
191 efforts to combat poverty and hunger, and, additionally, pledged to take immediate steps to
192 bolster the world's food security.

193
194 34. Article 79 of the *Accra Accord* identifies some of the long-term challenges faced by the
195 international community in addressing the needs of commodity dependent developing countries,
196 especially in terms of diversification of exports, with regards to food security and the need to
197 address the current reality that increases in consumption are outpacing increases in production
198 and its impact on the long-term food security challenges facing the international community.

199
200 35. UNCTAD is further guided by the *Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food*
201 *Security* contained in the declaration of the *World Summit on Food Security*. The principles of
202 investing in country-owned plans to channel resources to programmes and partnerships, fostering
203 strategic coordination to improve governance, and building capacity in developing countries are
204 principles that UNCTAD aims to address to alleviate the issue of food security.

205
206 36. The Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology under the authority of the UN Food and
207 Agriculture Organization (FAO) found that over 2.3 billion tons of food was lost or wasted
208 globally every year. This accounts for one third of the world's food. The UNCTAD has
209 supported immediate measures that would alleviate the symptoms of food insecurity, such as the
210 current situation in the Sahel and Horn of Africa. Many problems related to food security in least
211 developed countries are attributable to the absence of basic infrastructure. Lack of proper
212 infrastructure in many developing countries cripples their ability to realize optimal agricultural
213 and economic productivity, hampers the efficient use of their limited resources, reduces the
214 positive impact of food donations, drives away investment, and encumbers the safe delivery of
215 food products into the world markets.

216
217 **E. International Cooperation, Trade, and Economic Integration: Impacts on Food Security**
218

219 37. GA Resolution *A/Res/62/209* entitled *South-South Cooperation* recognizes the need to
220 mobilize additional resources for South-South Cooperation, via South-South funding that
221 supports development, and infrastructure development. Infrastructure plays a key role in
222 increasing the capacity of rural and smallholder farmers.

223
224 38. General Assembly Resolution *A/Res/67/443* titled *Agricultural Development and Food*
225 *Security* stresses the need to address the root causes of excessive volatility of food prices that

226 cause the impoverished to have limited access to food, sometimes decreasing the number of
227 meals per day that these vulnerable populations are able to eat.
228

229 39. The *Paris Declaration on aid Effectiveness* highlights that transparency in the use of funds
230 in essential in order to ensure the maximization of official development assistance. A high
231 percentage of official development assistance is utilized to improve agricultural capacity, and
232 increased transparency will serve to ensure that such assistance provides maximum benefit. A
233 core concept of the *Paris Declaration* is that transparency should yield increased development
234 assistance.
235

236 40. The UNCTAD remains cognizant of the recommendations and actions taken by a variety of
237 international stakeholders regarding the importance of establishing institutions to manage food
238 security. In particular, the UNCTAD recalls the suggestion by the Group of 20 Action Plan on
239 Commodities Price Volatility that seeks to increase cooperation and institutional support for food
240 security, specifically by developing a global system to monitor information on food production
241 and consumption reserves and price levels and creating a mechanism to better anticipate and
242 respond faster and in a more coordinated way to food crises. It further discusses coordinating
243 public and private sector efforts, including supporting the formation of national-level
244 partnerships to engage the private sector in sustainable agricultural development, and
245 establishing a global multi-stakeholder forum.
246

247 **F. Utilizing Education and Technical Assistance to Improve Food Security**

248

249 41. Education is of utmost importance in enhancing national and global food security. Past
250 attempts to increase educational opportunities were linked to providing food, clothing, and basic
251 health services. This was identified in chapter 10 of the *Dakar Framework for Action* that
252 addresses the linking of basic education to strategies for overcoming poverty and inequality. The
253 *Dakar Framework for Action* in its goals illustrates the importance of education in the attainment
254 all of the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs), particularly *MDG2* regarding universal
255 education and *MDG1* on the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger. As education has been
256 linked to the reduction of hunger and the establishment of food security, the UNCTAD believes
257 it is important to note.
258

259 **G. Food Security: Technology and Biotechnology**

260

261 42. The UNCTAD recognizes the importance of the *International Treaty on Plant Genetic*
262 *Resources for Food and Agriculture* in its aims to guarantee food security through the
263 conservation, exchange and sustainable use of the world's plant genetic resources for food and
264 agriculture, as well as the fair and equitable benefit sharing arising from its use.
265

266 43. The *Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety* identifies that developing countries need increased
267 capacity in order to maximize the benefits of biotechnology and to utilize agricultural intellectual
268 property rights, and additionally establishes that products from new technologies must be based
269 on the precautionary principle and allow developing nations to balance public health against
270 economic benefits. The UNCTAD identifies that coordination is of the utmost importance to

271 building capacity in developing countries and achieving a holistic approach to such efforts.

272
273 44. UNCTAD recognizes that the international community preserves biodiversity by protecting
274 and emphasizing the cultivation of native seeds. Progress is embodied by initiatives like the
275 Andean Seeds Project, funded by Spain-FAO, in which Ecuador, Bolivia, and Peru have
276 benefitted significantly. Its success is evident; 84 training events have benefitted over 2,000
277 farmers in the past two years. Unfortunately, small-scale, rural farmers are often unable to afford
278 and access such seeds and the training necessary for their cultivation.

279
280 45. While the UNCTAD recognizes that biofuels represent an opportunity for growth for
281 developing nations, that growth can not come at the cost of food security and environmental
282 sustainability. The UNCTAD recommends that member states balance the opportunities of
283 biofuel production with its potential to encroach on natural environments. We further request that
284 developed countries limit their use of biofuel consumption mandates to increase demand for
285 biofuels, and endorse the usage of biofuels created from inedible plant parts, ensuring that the
286 increased production of biofuels does not increase food insecurity.

287 288 **H. Increasing Agricultural Resilience to Natural Disasters and Food Crises**

289
290 46. The UNCTAD is cognizant of the report of the Secretary General entitled *Agriculture*
291 *Development and Food Security (A/67/294)* stating that collaboration should be deepened
292 through resilience based approaches, especially those that mitigate the impact of crises and
293 natural disasters on rural farmers and landholders. Such efforts will increase the agricultural
294 capacity of developing countries.

295
296 47. Food access is further exacerbated by the effects of climate change, an issue the UNCTAD
297 report *Assuring Food Security in Developing Countries Under the Challenges of Climate*
298 *Change: Key Trade And Development Issues of a Fundamental Transformation of Agriculture*
299 discussed. From drought to desertification, increased hurricane strength, erratic weather
300 patterns, and disrupted natural ecosystems, the effects of climate change pose a dangerous threat
301 to agricultural production. All these factors make it more difficult to grow crops, raise animals,
302 and catch fish in the same ways that we have in the past. The effects of climate change also need
303 to be considered along with other evolving factors that affect agricultural production, such as
304 changes in farming practices and technology. Preliminary estimates in agricultural production
305 suggest a decline in global agricultural productivity anywhere from 15%-30% by 2080.

306 307 **I. FOOD SECURITY: TRADE AND AGRICULTURE**

308
309 48. Cooperation is a necessity for the development of any Member State. With the aid of other
310 Member States within the region, developing states are able to utilize methodologies that have
311 been successful, into their own practices. Within the Southeast region of Asian ten countries,
312 Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and
313 Vietnam, have immensely benefited from the sharing of successful technologies and practices
314 among each other, fostered through the ASEAN Declaration of 1967. The concept of information
315 sharing should be utilized for the transfer of agricultural practices in order to flourish the

316 agricultural sector of struggling states. A framework should be created in order to facilitate this
317 need.

318
319 49. Since their creation in 2000, the Millennium Development Goals have advocated primarily
320 for the eradication of extreme hunger and poverty. There is no greater hurdle to eradicating
321 extreme hunger than the need for food security. The UNCTAD recognizes the value of
322 A/RES/32/51 in supporting the coordination of triangular and South-South cooperation.

323
324 50. A/RES/57/263 reminds this body that South-South cooperation for development must act as a
325 complement, not a substitute to North-South cooperation. A/RES/60/212 and A/RES/64/22 stress
326 the importance of triangular cooperation as a means of financing South-South cooperation and
327 allocating funds that would otherwise not exist. The UNCTAD recognizes the significant role
328 triangular cooperation can hold in increasing food security worldwide.

329
330 51. Agribusinesses are the largest contributor to employment and income in the world and play
331 an important role in food security. The UNCTAD has recently put forth a report entitled
332 *Addressing the Global Food Crisis* discussing the importance of food security. Securing access
333 to food plays a vital role in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly
334 the first MDG goal of the Eradication of Extreme Poverty and Hunger.

335
336 52. Many new technologies exist to benefit Member States in their efforts to grow their
337 agribusiness sector, one such technology is Geographical Information Systems (GIS). GIS has
338 had a positive impact on the agricultural sector as it has provided information vital to specific
339 agro-ecological zones in respective Member States. GIS determines the land productivity, length
340 of growing period, irrigation requirements, and land sustainability among other things. This in
341 turn helps Member States understand the terrain inside their borders to place crops in the most
342 beneficial location to increase crop yields.

343
344 53. Many agribusinesses and Member States experience difficulty obtaining financing options
345 when trying to create or maintain agribusinesses, particularly in developing states. Without
346 alternative financing options such as rural financing, agricultural financing, and value chain
347 financing, many Member States lack the ability to expand their agribusiness industry.
348 Furthermore, the discussion of tariffs and tariff barriers, which is vital to trade, is ongoing and an
349 integral part of agribusiness and trade. Tariff barriers can hinder further development of trade
350 between states as they restrict imports and thus result in decreased capital.

351
352 54. Many least developed countries (LDCs) experience various obstacles when integrating
353 agribusiness into their agricultural industries. As such, LDCs are left isolated and unprepared for
354 further development their agribusiness industry. More specifically, LDCs lack the proper training
355 of how to integrate agribusiness into their economy to create an effective foundation for the
356 industry to flourish.

357
358 55. The use of Information Technology Systems (ITS) has helped increase communications
359 amongst farmers and agribusiness stakeholders in developing countries. ITS non-governmental
360 organizations (NGOs), such as Vodafone, have provided cell phones for many agribusiness

361 farmers to help facilitate better communication to increase business partnerships. As such, ITS
362 NGOs are used in rural areas to help local farmers communicate with each other.

363

364 56. The respect of every human being is vital. All people should live in an equitable world, free
365 of poverty and hunger where development is all inclusive and sustainable to deliver basic
366 services to the most vulnerable and marginalized population. Access to food is a necessity to
367 decrease poverty and allow for people to live healthy fulfilling lives.

368

369 57. Science and technology has led to large improvements in food security. Advancements in
370 science and technology allows for higher production and safety of food while decreasing prices
371 and losses from pest and disease. This approach has shown success in Israel with its recent
372 locust swarm that caused the least damage to crops ever.

373

374 58. Science and technology have also allowed for the development of such techniques as drip
375 irrigation methods and Techno-agriculture Innovation for Poverty Alleviation (TIPA), which
376 allow for the most efficient use of scarce resources while maximizing yields, and System of Rice
377 (roots) method that uses transplanting procedures from a pot as a seedling to the ground for an
378 adult plant, this allows for the more cost effective use of seeds and minerals. SRI has been
379 integrated into the agribusiness sector of Mali, Vietnam, and India. It reduces the amount of
380 plants used, increases the quality of soil, and utilizes modern irrigation techniques. SRI has
381 increased yields by 50 to 100 per cent, seen a 90 per cent reduction in seeds, and up to 50 per
382 cent of water savings.

383

384 59. In an effort to encourage the development of other industries, UNCTAD wishes to support
385 the diversification of exports in developing and least developed countries. Slovakia
386 revolutionized their economy by increasing the variety of trade industries, which is instrumental
387 in fostering valuable human capital and new technology leading to sustainable development.

388

389 60. Recognizing the harm caused to economies suffering from brain drain, UNCTAD desires to
390 pursue incentivizing the retention of talent. In order to support the growth of technology, highly
391 educated individuals must remain in their homelands to utilize increasing capital.

392

393 **J. SUSTAINABILITY**

394

395 61. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) recognizes that the
396 Millennium Development Goals, since their promulgation in the year 2000, have become the
397 forefront of development policy for the United Nations. Among the most important of the MDGs
398 is the eradication of extreme hunger as illustrated in the first enumerated MDG, to cut the
399 number of food insecure persons by half no later than 2015. The Universal Declaration of
400 Human Rights established in 1946 declares that all people have the right to a standard of living
401 adequate for their health and wellbeing, including the right to food. This right to food faces no
402 greater challenges than current roadblocks to food security.

403

404 62. The UNCTAD recognize the effectiveness of Millennium Villages as envisioned during the
405 Sixty-fourth session of the UN General Assembly (A/64/665). Millennium Villages were created
406 to alleviate poverty within developing rural communities through affordable and sustainable

407 practices. The UNCTAD recalls the work being done by the Millennium Villages Project in
408 regions like Sub-Saharan Africa, especially regarding the economically and environmentally
409 beneficial sustainable agricultural practices such as agro-forestry.

410
411 63. The distinct characteristic of each respective Member State presents difficulties in creating
412 comprehensive solutions to the universal problem of food accessibility and agricultural
413 sustainable development and stable infrastructure. The difficulty of crop diversification is
414 magnified in the context of rural communities, furthering the need for a Distinctive Development
415 Initiative working through the International Fund for Agricultural Development's (IFAD) Result-
416 Based Country Strategic Opportunities Programme (RB-COSOP) to address country-specific and
417 community-contextual difficulties.

418
419 64. Established in 1977 as a unique financial institution under the United Nations, IFAD has
420 pursued results-based country specific opportunities programmes (RB-COSOP) implemented in
421 2003 to combat rural and agricultural incapacity and poverty and have been successfully carried
422 out in over 50 countries through technical assistance, context-structured IFAD programmes and a
423 network of partners for funding of rural development. Assessments through this programme are
424 translated into the IFAD's efforts, programmes, financing for rural development.

425
426 65. Biotechnology has the ability to revolutionize farming in rural communities facing extreme
427 poverty. Farmers typically purchase seeds to plant and harvest crops. After harvesting, the
428 farmers must again purchase seeds for the next season of planting. However, the biotechnology
429 process *apomixis* causes seeds to reproduce asexually, meaning they do not need to pollinate to
430 create more seeds. Therefore, farmers would not need to purchase seeds annually but would have
431 extra seeds after *apomixis*. Such seeds are instrumental in countries and farms that wish to use
432 such seeds, however *apomixis* will be given to the farmers upon their request, and will not be
433 mandatory.

434
435 66. The Food Security Collaborative Network, in its April 2012 findings entitled: "Building
436 Institutional Capacity to Increase Food Security in Africa" cites the need for institutional
437 capacity building in food security practices in developing regions. Millennium Villages allow for
438 capacity building in developing regions which will allow future self-sufficiency.

439
440 67. Furthermore, the UNCTAD acknowledges each Member State's right to sovereignty in
441 respect to the organizations they support and the funding mechanisms in which they contribute,
442 allowing that such measures be voluntary.

443
444 68. Agriculture has changed dramatically since the ending of the Second World War gave way to
445 innovations in new farming technologies. Although these innovations have had numerous
446 positive effects and have significantly reduced farming costs throughout much of the world, the
447 UNCTAD draws attention to the subsequent negative effects that large-scale, industrial farming
448 has had on both developed and developing states, including: topsoil depletion, groundwater
449 contamination, declining success of smallholder farms and increased costs of production in
450 developing states. The UNCTAD recognizes the need for implementing more sustainable
451 techniques into agriculture practices contained in *Resolution 66/220*, which promotes sustained,
452 inclusive, and equitable agricultural development for all Member States. Furthermore, the

453 UNCTAD reiterates A/RES/63/235, highlights the need for organic and sustainable agricultural
454 practices that are neither subject to market fluctuation nor the volatile prices of fossil fuels used
455 in the production of environmentally harmful agrochemicals.

456
457 69. The High-Level Conference on World Food Security notes that the effects of climate change,
458 such as the increased intensity of storms, rising sea levels, and drought, will ultimately have
459 adverse effects on the production of food, water supply, and agricultural trade in all Member
460 States. According to the Commission on Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change's report,
461 "Achieving food security in the face of climate change," 1.3 billion tons of food produced for
462 human consumption is lost or wasted annually; therefore, the UNCTAD believes this is an issue
463 that must be tackled when addressing sustainable agriculture techniques.

464
465 70. Farmer cooperatives play an important role in the empowerment of smallholder farmers as a
466 pivotal element of agricultural production, in order to eradicate poverty and hunger, as espoused
467 in the UN General Assembly's promotion of the 2012 International Year of Cooperatives. Since
468 smallholder farmers are spread over large territories, unifying them in clusters, or cooperatives,
469 provides them with increased leverage and capital in order to purchase improved agricultural
470 inputs and advanced farming implements, market their agricultural products, and attain access to
471 the latest market information and agricultural technologies.

472 473 **K. FOOD SECURITY: AGRICULTURE AND TRADE**

474
475 71. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), established in 1964,
476 works towards progressive sustainable development of United Nations Member States, and
477 promotes the integration of developing States in the World Economy. UNCTAD has expressed
478 regular concern regarding food security and how price volatility contributes to the international
479 food crises.

480
481 72. Recognizing freedom from hunger and malnutrition as a human right as per the *International*
482 *Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights* and restated in the *Universal Declaration on*
483 *the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition*.

484
485 73. UNCTAD reaffirms the importance of the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food
486 Security as adopted by Member States gathered at the World Summit on Food Security held in
487 2009.

488
489 74. Upholding the Doha Declaration which identifies food security and price volatility as
490 fundamental issues.

491
492 75. UNCTAD is cognizant of the 2008 food crises and therefore urges the need to address the
493 issue of food price volatility as reaffirmed by A/RES/66/220.

494
495 76. According to the Food Commodities Speculation and Food Price Crises 2010 report the food
496 crisis of 2008 was largely caused by speculation of international financial institutions.
497 UNCTAD, being deeply worried about excessive food price volatility and its fatal impacts on

498 food security as constituted in *A/RES/66/188*, red-flags the risks indicated in *A/RES/63/235* that
499 emerge from speculation.

500

501 **L. INSTITUTION BUILDING**

502

503 77. The UNCTAD remains cognizant of the recommendations and actions taken by a variety of
504 international stakeholders regarding the importance of establishing institutions to manage food
505 security. In particular, the UNCTAD recalls the suggestion by the G20 Action Plan on Food
506 Security to increase cooperation and institutional support for food security, specifically:

507

508 a. Developing a global system to monitor information on food production and
509 consumption reserves and price levels” suggesting that though databases exist, they
510 remain largely isolated from one another and without a coordinating agency.

511

512 b. Creating “a mechanism to better anticipate and respond faster and in a more
513 coordinated way to food crises”. This recommendation indicates that the speed of
514 response is also an issue. Although agencies and programs may possess ample
515 information and resources, they often lack the authority and strategic awareness
516 necessary to affect policy on a timely basis.

517

518 c. Coordinating “public and private sector efforts, including supporting the formation of
519 national-level partnerships”, allowing the harnessing of market and public energies and
520 an integrated approach to food security.

521

522 d. “Establishing a global multistakeholder forum” in order to combat the at times insular
523 nature of international action and to embrace the perspectives, experiences and resources
524 of all member states.

525

526 78. Repeated suggestions by the relevant stakeholders for the institutionalization of the Food
527 security issue, specifically:

528

529 a. UNCTAD Release TAD/2058’s recommendation that “development strategies should
530 be based on an integrated and holistic approach, if the desired policy options were to
531 emerge” which emphasizes the importance of the establishment of an Intergovernmental
532 Panel.

533 b. The Co-Conveners RIO+20 recommendation that food security by addressing the issue
534 “in the context of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change”, suggesting that the issue
535 of food security be given a similar institutional backing.

536

537 79. The UNCTAD acknowledges the new commitment period under the Kyoto protocol
538 established by the Conference of Parties (COP) 18 to adopt a universal climate agreement by
539 2015. The intention of this new agreement is to scale up climate change efforts by 2020. These
540 increased measures will seek to curb emissions to a level that would ensure that world
541 temperatures will stay below the agreed maximum rise of two degrees centigrade, set at the 2010
542 Cancun Agreements.

543

544 **M. EDUCATION**

545

546 80. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) supports the *Accra*
547 *Accord* and strives to foster global food security for future generations through the
548 implementation and understanding of educational measures, economic strategies, and
549 technological advances.

550

551 81. The United Nations Development Program's *Organic Agriculture and Food Security in*
552 *Africa Report* emphasizes the negative impact that agrochemicals have on the populations of
553 Member States and the importance of combating price volatility, and enhancing environmental
554 sustainability.

555

556 82. In addition, the UNCTAD reaffirms the use of organic farming methods including the use of
557 natural pesticides and small-scale, second and third-generation biofuel production as an effective
558 means of substituting the unsustainable and environmentally harmful effects of fossil fuels and
559 traditional agricultural techniques.

560

561 83. To complement, the UNCTAD recognizes the *Rio+20's Report of the United Nations*
562 *Conference on Sustainable Development* that discusses the importance of environmental impact
563 not only upon resource availability, but also as a main factor for food security. As Global climate
564 change, such as rising temperatures and decreased annual rainfall decrease food production,
565 Member States that implement climate resilience programs see increased food security, as
566 demonstrated by Bolivia's Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR), which is funded by the
567 World Bank's Strategic Climate Fund. Empowering farmers on the local level through regionally
568 specific advancements in technology and education is critical.

569

570 84. The UNCTAD acknowledges the empowerment of local communities by involving them in
571 the creation, implementation, and assessment of programs, which also aid in creating a
572 sustainable environment by ensuring that all relevant stakeholders have a hand in contributing to
573 good governance, as laid out in Section 6 of the *Accra Accord* [UNCTAD/IAOS/2008/2].

574

575 85. The UNCTAD supports actions by states and relevant United Nations bodies to work
576 towards development of higher-yield and more resilient seeds with improved nutritional value.
577 Incorporating the results of these efforts into agricultural production processes would reduce a
578 Member State's dependence upon imported food, which would, in turn, enable agricultural self-
579 sustainability.

580

581 86. The UNCTAD values the opinions of local community members with profound knowledge
582 of on-the-ground conditions in order to ensure that all relevant stakeholders are involved in the
583 creation and implementation of programs designed to fight food insecurity.

584

585 **II. Mandate**

586

587 87. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) was created in 1964
588 by the General Assembly. General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) specified that the
589 Conference should promote international trade, especially with a view to accelerating economic

590 development. In exercising this function, the Conference was tasked to formulate principles and
591 policies on international trade and related problems of economic development, and to make
592 proposals for putting the said principles and policies into effect, with a special regard to
593 differences in economic systems and stages of development. In addition, the resolution called for
594 UNCTAD to generally review and facilitate the co-ordination of activities of other institutions
595 within the UN System in the field of international trade and related problems of economic
596 development, and in this regard, to co-operate with the General Assembly and the Economic and
597 Social Council with respect to the performance of their responsibilities for co-ordination under
598 the Charter of the United Nations. The Conference was further tasked to initiate action, where
599 appropriate, in cooperation with the competent organs of the United Nations for the negotiation
600 and adoption of multilateral legal instruments in the field of trade, with due regard to the
601 adequacy of existing organs of negotiation and to be available as a center for harmonizing the
602 trade and related development policies of Governments and regional economic groupings in
603 pursuance of Article 1 of the Charter.

604
605 88. UNCTAD continually adapts its mandate to reflect current global economic conditions. The
606 Thirteenth Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
607 (UNCTAD XIII), held in 2012 in Doha, Qatar, called for UNCTAD to continue to play its role in
608 the evolution of a stronger global consensus on issues falling within its mandate, to contribute to
609 discussions within the United Nations system on green economy and other models in the context
610 of sustainable development and resilience to climate change, to continue research and analysis on
611 the prospects of, and impact on, developing countries in matters of trade and development, in
612 light of the global economic and financial crisis, to continue to monitor and assess the evolution
613 of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective and to continue
614 taking into consideration particularly the needs of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) across all
615 areas of its mandate in accordance with the Istanbul Programme of Action as well as address the
616 special concerns and needs of Africa, including as articulated in the New Partnership for Africa's
617 Development. The Doha Mandate equally called for further consideration of the special trade,
618 investment and development needs of landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), including
619 through continuing its support for effective implementation of the Almaty Ministerial
620 Declaration and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked
621 Developing Countries Within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for
622 Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries, and its review in 2014. The Doha Mandate also
623 called for UNCTAD to implement and follow up, as appropriate, relevant outcomes from global
624 conferences and summits on development.

625 626 **III. Conclusions and Recommendations**

627 628 **A. FOOD SECURITY: AGRICULTURE AND TRADE**

629
630 89. Member States within different geographical regions experience climates and environmental
631 issues that inhibit agricultural growth. Water is an integral part in the agricultural process and
632 thus needs in-depth focus in order to increase food security. The UNCTAD suggests that
633 artificial wetlands, such as sub-surface flow wetlands and anaerobic lagoons, be created and
634 implemented as a sustainable filtration system for wastewater within able Member States and
635 regions, especially those within water deficit areas and land locked states. Alternate methods of

636 water purification should also be utilized such as desalinization, rapid and slow sand filters, or
637 large scale boiling facilities. The water purified from such mechanisms will increase the
638 availability of water for agricultural uses to better combat the problem of food security.
639

640 90. Water contamination from chemical run off and pesticides affects agriculture and fishing
641 communities. The agricultural aspect can be solved through the creation of water reserves within
642 states, where possible, to ensure a clean source of water. If water reserves are not possible, the
643 beneficial effects of wetlands can aid in the removal of harmful chemicals. Furthermore, testing
644 of chemical levels in water through monitoring systems within agricultural lands is essential to
645 reduce dangerous chemical run off, which will be beneficial to both agriculture and fishing
646 communities. The UNCTAD suggests that the General Assembly support the World Water
647 Assessment Programme (WWAP) in their efforts to oversee the use of chemicals and pesticides
648 within farmlands. Although UNCTAD recognizes that developing states often need pesticides for
649 farming, if possible, pesticide-free methods of farming should be promoted to decrease the
650 presence of harmful chemicals within crops.
651

652 91. The UNCTAD acknowledges that gaining access to water in rural and urban, underprivileged
653 areas is difficult, costly, and time consuming. Access to water is often far from communities
654 causing difficulties for farmers. The UNCTAD supports increased investments in water supply
655 infrastructure such as wells, irrigation systems, and other innovative water collection methods.
656

657 92. The implementation of water supply infrastructure should include further investment in the
658 development of water collection sources such as desalinization and fog collection. Fog collection
659 is the use of large mesh in high altitudes to collect water droplets in containers for agriculture.
660 Furthermore, building underground pipelines is an efficient method of transportation because it
661 increases water conservation by reducing evaporation and non-revenue water. Other methods of
662 water conservation include drip/micro irrigation, rain/moister freeze and wind sensors, which
663 interrupt irrigation during unfavorable weather conditions. Also recommended are specialized
664 hoses and demand based irrigation controls for all areas suitable for such technology. These
665 irrigation methods reduce excess use of water within irrigation systems.
666

667 93. Natural water resources often cross borders, which may cause uneven access and sometimes
668 conflict over distribution. The UNCTAD encourages the implementation of bilateral and
669 multilateral legal frameworks for integrated water resource management. Examples of this
670 include the Nile Basin Agreement, which includes cooperation between Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia,
671 Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the
672 Orontes Agreement, between Syria, Lebanon and Turkey, and article 6 of the Israel-Jordan
673 Treaty of Peace, which ensures the efficient sharing of resources. These frameworks foster
674 regional cooperation to share large bodies of water within an area. The UNCTAD encourages
675 broader participation in existing frameworks.
676

677 93. In recognizing the importance of education in developing sustainable water and agricultural
678 practices, the UNCTAD suggests that the General Assembly support the expansion of the FAO's
679 Natural Resources and Environmental Department's units on Water Development and
680 Management and AQUASTAT. The recommended expansion should include educational
681 initiatives for farmers through local meetings and ground projects on methods of sustainable

682 water resource management. This organization ensures that farmers understand the importance
683 and benefits of clean water supplies in an agricultural system.

684
685 94. The costliness of sustainable water supplies for agriculture affects the ability of developing
686 Member States to expand their agricultural sector. The UNCTAD suggests that the United
687 Nations Water Programme and the official development aid fund of the UNCTAD provide
688 funding for the implementation of the sustainable water supplies and practices as outlined in this
689 report for food security and agricultural development. This body also welcomes any voluntary
690 contributions from development banks and organizations, such as The New Partnership for
691 Africa's Development (NEPAD) sponsored program, The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture
692 Development Programme (CAADP), NGOs, and any other Member States.

693
694 **B. TRADE**

695
696 95. The UNCTAD believes that the World Trade Organization's Aid for Trade Initiative should
697 be expanded to more developing countries to increase the effectiveness for developing countries
698 to build trade-related infrastructure that will increase their ability to trade. This is vital for
699 utilizing national resources to construct more efficient trade routes within a country and between
700 neighboring countries. Once this trade-related infrastructure is in place, it is intended to increase
701 Member States' capacities to trade, allowing for their economies to expand and agriculture to
702 flourish, as noted in the 2009 Declaration on the World Summit on Food Security. Also, in
703 humanitarian emergency situations where food shortages may arise, this will allow for a more
704 rapid response in transferring food aid.

705
706 96. The UNCTAD strongly upholds the TrainforTrade initiative to train finance ministers in
707 trade-related practices to more effectively build their capacity to become competitors in the
708 global market and increase their position in international trading systems. Therefore, the
709 UNCTAD advises the General Assembly to increase funding for the TrainforTrade initiative
710 through increased financial assistance from Member States and voluntary donors such as the
711 African Development Bank to more effectively implement this programme. With the
712 TrainforTrade initiative implemented in Member States, governments will be able to participate
713 more effectively in agricultural markets and sell their agricultural goods when prices are at the
714 most profitable.

715
716 97. The UNCTAD supports regional initiatives such as Pillar 2 of the New Partnership for
717 Africa's Development's (NEPAD's) Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development
718 Programme, which addresses market access by improving local infrastructure and frameworks
719 that facilitate the access for individuals into the market through attracting foreign and direct
720 investment. Through this NEPAD initiative, developing states will be able to build their markets
721 along established guidelines that will enhance their ability to participate in the agricultural
722 markets. With increased participation in agricultural markets, agricultural sectors will grow and
723 therefore improve food security.

724
725 98. Economic diversification is vital in reducing the impacts of food price volatility in
726 developing countries. The UNCTAD advises the General Assembly to work towards procuring
727 increased financial assistance to the UNCTAD's Special Unit on Commodities and the

728 Commodity Development Fund so that it can more effectively assist developing countries to
729 diversify their economies. Additionally, UNCTAD advises the General Assembly to work
730 towards improving cooperation between Member States and the Special Unit on Commodities so
731 that all Member States can benefit from this programme through economic diversification. The
732 International Fund for Agricultural Development's Results-Based Strategic Opportunities
733 Programme should be utilized to facilitate dissemination of information on global agricultural
734 development to ensure all Member States are adequately developing their agricultural sectors.
735

736 99. The UNCTAD believes South-South and regional cooperation is key to increasing trade,
737 especially agricultural trade, since this is a primary sector of many developing countries'
738 economies. Improving trade relations will increase income and will improve countries' abilities
739 to manage food security. The creation of existing free trade agreements and strengthening of
740 trade relations between Member States is vital. As many developing and least developed
741 countries are low-income food-deficit countries and also net-importers of food, improving trade
742 is vital to attaining food security.
743

744 a. Implementing regional trade agreements such as the South Pacific Regional Trade and
745 Economic Agreement will assist Member States in increasing trade among neighboring
746 countries. The UNCTAD believes regional and cross regional trade is vital in ensuring
747 the creation of more efficient markets. With more efficient markets, developing countries
748 can ensure the success of the agricultural sector through increasing agricultural exports.
749 By strengthening the agricultural sector, global food security can be attained.
750

751 b. The UNCTAD supports multilateral programmes that focus on coordinating
752 production levels through a cooperative framework such as the Agadir Initiative.
753

754 c. The UNCTAD believes that free trade agreements should be established with increased
755 cooperation with international agencies such as the World Bank, IFAD, FAO, and
756 UNCTAD in order to create effective bilateral and multilateral agreements.
757

758 d. UNCTAD advises the increased cooperation between Member States and international
759 organizations through South-South Cooperation and regional cooperation. This should
760 include information and knowledge sharing and technology transfer.
761

762 100. The UNCTAD supports the creation of additional national actions such as South Sudan's
763 National Assembly's Agricultural Bank Act which facilitates smallholder farmers to access
764 government revenues and loans to build the agricultural sectors. With the access to financial aid,
765 farmers can increase crop yields through improving inputs and therefore create food surpluses
766 which will increase exports of food goods. The UNCTAD acknowledges regional development
767 banks can contribute to the establishment of such national initiatives dedicated to improving
768 trade and food security.
769

770 101. The UNCTAD recognizes the potentially devastating impact of economic sanctions on
771 developing countries and criticizes the use of economic sanctions as a political tool. Economic
772 sanctions in some instances limit countries' abilities to import food which poses a problem to
773 food security as many developing and least developed countries are net-importers of food. The

774 UNCTAD strongly encourages the consideration of the negative impacts of economic sanctions
775 on agricultural subsidies for food security.

776

777 102. The UNCTAD recognizes the importance of increasing investment attractiveness in
778 developing countries to increase the development of agricultural and rural sectors. The
779 UNCTAD believes there should be increased utilization of the World Bank's Multilateral
780 Investment Guarantee Agency to reduce the risks that naturally result from foreign direct
781 investment and increase investment attractiveness in developing Member States. The UNCTAD
782 also requests increased cooperation with the World Bank and the FAO, UNCTAD, and other
783 relevant actors in terms of food security and trade.

784

785 103. The UNCTAD recognizes that transparency and accountability are vital in ensuring food
786 security through agriculture and trade. It is vital to reduce corruption through measures that
787 increase transparency and accountability of governments. Enhancing good governance will
788 improve transparency in trade and allow for government revenues to be directed towards
789 investment in the agricultural sector.

790

791 a. The UNCTAD supports regional mechanisms such as the African Peer Review
792 Mechanism (APRM) that takes a regional approach to ensuring that governments are
793 accountable to their citizens and that governments are utilizing financial assistance and
794 revenues in a transparent manner. The APRM holds Member States accountable to each
795 other to ensure that good governance is being followed.

796

797 b. The UNCTAD supports initiatives such as the Extractive Industries Transparency
798 Initiative (EITI) that supports transparency of government revenues from domestic
799 production. This ensures that the funds are distributed in a sustainable manner and
800 contribute to sustainable development. The UNCTAD advises the expansion of EITI to
801 other industries than mining to allow for increased transparency in the international
802 system.

803

804 c. The UNCTAD advises all Member States to work towards incentivizing international
805 programmes that promote accountability and transparency as this will lead to increased
806 investments in the agricultural sector and improve trade relations between developing
807 countries.

808

809 104. The UNCTAD notes that virtual future option transactions like Calls and Puts do not
810 achieve a country's self-sufficiency for they are subject to the future market prices.
811 Acknowledging that future and forward covers are meant to hedge the current market price of
812 staple food, UNCTAD notes the purpose of allowing buyers to settle future deals with
813 predetermined prices. This will ensure that there is a defined amount of food at the price of the
814 forward rate available to cover the country's needs.

815

816 105. The UNCTAD supports mitigation of excessive speculation in agricultural markets through
817 coordination with the World Trade Organization. The UNCTAD advises increased research on
818 excessive speculation in agricultural markets and the creation of policies and binding
819 mechanisms that work to reduce extreme price volatility. Price volatility has been cited as a main

820 cause of the 2008 food crisis and focus on reducing excessive speculation on agricultural and
821 commodity markets will attempt to prevent future food crises.

822

823 106. The UNCTAD supports the World Fair Trade Organization's ten principles, especially the
824 first and the fourth principles, namely Creating Opportunities for Economically Disadvantaged
825 Producers and Payment of a Fair Price. It is necessary to ensure that traders are paid at a fair
826 minimum price regarding the work they invest. This body considers fair trade a method to
827 combat price volatility.

828

829 107. The UNCTAD recognizes the importance of increasing access to agricultural market
830 information for smallholder farmers to increase their ability to be competitors in the global
831 agricultural markets. The Group of 20 and Food and Agricultural Organization's Agricultural
832 Market Information System (AMIS) is effective at compiling information but its information is
833 only distributed to a small number of countries. The UNCTAD recommends that AMIS expand
834 its information network to developing countries to access this information and build their
835 capacity to utilize international markets.

836

837 108. The UNCTAD supports the Food Import Financing Facility (FIFF) that operates as a
838 lending facility for high-risk Member States as decided by the FIFF. This will assist to alleviate
839 financial constraints as well as international grain options and futures to ensure the availability of
840 food imports. This will also reduce exporting risks when supplies are low.

841

842 109. The UNCTAD advises the General Assembly to acknowledge the effect of domestic
843 agricultural subsidies, particularly those which distort agricultural markets and reduces the
844 ability of developing countries to compete in the international market. The UNCTAD also
845 supports preferential treatment for developing and least developed countries.

846

847 110. The UNCTAD advises the General Assembly to note that Member States who are unable,
848 or would prefer not, to reduce domestic agricultural subsidies should consider renewing or
849 establishing commitment to the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative, or contribute in other ways to
850 assist to agricultural development. The L'Aquila Food Security Initiative was agreed upon by the
851 Group of 8, OECD, the Commission of the African Union, and many other Member States and
852 international organizations. Parties to this initiative agreed to allocate \$20 billion towards
853 agricultural development assistance through a variety of means and initiatives, as established in
854 the L'Aquila Declaration. The UNCTAD also advises the review and possible revision of the
855 L'Aquila Food Security Initiative to enhance its effectiveness based on results from its previous
856 implementation.

857

858 111. The UNCTAD supports the United Nations Industrial Development Organizations Resource
859 Efficient and Cleaner Production Programme to allow for the dissemination of information and
860 strategy approaches to chemical management, in order to ensure that products being traded are
861 environmentally safe and sustainable.

862

863 112. The UNCTAD advises the General Assembly to utilize existing international frameworks, if
864 present, or create and implement a new international comprehensive framework led by the World
865 Bank, FAO, IFAD, and the UNCTAD in order to monitor public and private investments that are

866 entrusted to states focused on agricultural production. The UNCTAD requests that this
867 framework be tailored to every country's needs and include areas such as stockpiling,
868 installations, irrigation, institutions for research and popularization, capacity building and public
869 and private partnerships.

870

871 **C. COMBATTING PROBLEMS IN FOOD ALLOCATION AND WASTE**

872

873 113. The UNCTAD firmly believes that the repurposing of food waste would significantly
874 contribute to global food security. Therefore, this conference encourages the implementation of
875 policies that target the reduction and effective utilization of waste.

876

877 114. To reduce the wastage of edible food in the global community, the UNCTAD considers the
878 innovative Online Food Sharing Initiative as a great prototype for programs designed to
879 reallocate food and prevent spoilage. Therefore the UNCTAD:

880

881 a. recommends the creation of platforms similar to the World Food Programme that bring
882 together private persons or households, distributors, and producers in order to share food
883 surpluses on a local level and the eventual extension of this program to national levels;

884

885 b. supports the expansion and implementation of the Food Sharing network on a regional
886 level between neighboring countries to allow for the more efficient use of food surpluses
887 through trade among both developed and developing countries.

888

889 115. In reference to research conducted by the FAO on food labeling and expiration dates, the
890 UNCTAD further recommends:

891

892 a. introducing a date for optimal use (Best-Before-Date) for certain products rather than
893 the conventional expiration date, to prevent dumping of still edible foods past the expiry
894 date;

895

896 b. dual-labeling of food with two expiration dates, one for the marketing (Sell-by-Date)
897 and the other for consumption (Use-by-Date);

898

899 c. additional engagement of relevant UN bodies in raising awareness in consumers of the
900 meanings behind the various expiration dates.

901

902 116. Encompassing FAO's *Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction*, the UNCTAD
903 supports the approach to raise awareness, and compose collaboration among Member States to
904 supply reports to target specific demographics.

905

906 117. To lower the amount of food wasted during transport the UNCTAD suggests:

907

908 a. encouraging projects and programs that enhance the grade level of nation states'
909 transportation infrastructure by the General Assembly, following the example of the
910 Algerian five-year public investment plan aiming to develop public infrastructure;

911

912 b. the further development of transportation technology to ensure maximum retention of
913 food when being transported to consumers who are heavily dependent on that resource.

914

915 118. The UNCTAD highlights the necessity of constructing more effective and efficient food
916 storage facilities to avoid food dissemination due to overproduction and lower demand.

917 Therefore, this conference calls for:

918

919 a. the support of programs that assist developing countries to implement mechanisms that
920 address food storage and waste, such as the Asian Development's Bank Commodity
921 Exchange for Rice Programme's Options for Addressing Price Risk;

922

923 b. the further promotion of warehousing infrastructure by development banks such as
924 Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), private enterprises to educate individual farmers on
925 proper management, acquiring and utilizing capital to its maximum efficiency.

926

927 119. The UNCTAD suggests the investigation of opportunities leading to increased investments
928 into food waste management and the utilization of a nation's waste for the purpose of effective
929 fertilization and progressive eco-friendly modifications. Waste contains a variety of minerals and
930 natural vitamins that are valuable to agricultural growth and can be converted into economic
931 assets such as clean energy. Thus, this conference would encourage increased reporting relating
932 to the matter of waste involvement with fertilization effect on soil and where waste is invested in
933 member states. Therefore, the UNCTAD recommends:

934

935 a. discussions of investment specified toward clean energy. This conference further
936 proposes global access to view updated reports and valuable data worksheets that involve
937 waste and clean energy relations including those that discuss mineral composition of
938 agricultural products, crop yield data, agronomic production relations, and data examples.
939 Furthermore, these reports should include informative data on how waste can be utilized
940 to generate environmental-friendly energy;

941

942 b. collaboration among the United Nations Environmental Programme, the United
943 Nations Development Programme and the Millennium Development Goal Achievement
944 Fund in an effort to devote more resources to the initiation of accessible in-depth reports
945 to pursue the following:

946

947 i. initial discussions for reports written on climate change regarding the global
948 environment and educational field targeting of independent agriculturalists in
949 environmentally sustainable measures to mitigate certain techniques that are
950 harmful to the environment and detrimental to agricultural productivity.

951

952 ii. research conducted on the relationship between organic pesticides (herbicides)
953 and environmental changes. Agrochemicals are more toxic and have detrimental
954 effects on both the environment and on the people using them, as discussed in the
955 UNCTAD's policy briefing on Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security in
956 LDCs. Furthermore, the misuse of pesticides can lead to immunity of harmful
957 organisms and the subsequent use of stronger chemical deterrents. Solutions

958 include research and investigation on more efficient, eco-friendly, and cost
959 effective methods.

960
961 iii. collection of numerical data clean energy facilities within Member States and
962 the methods of clean energy implemented. One possible method consists of
963 capturing the methane produced by of cows to use as a natural gas source.

964
965 iv. discussions addressing possible methods that encourage the scientific
966 investigation of rainfall patterns and the collection of samples that determine the
967 acidity of rainwater.

968
969 120. The UNCTAD encourages the promotion of biodiversity by enhancing eco-friendly changes
970 and sustainable environmental procedures, as discussed in Rio+20. Within this context, the
971 UNCTAD also promotes the idea of enhanced communication systems between southern and
972 northern states, providing the efficient facilitation and distribution of environmentally safe
973 procedures and tactics throughout the globe.

974
975 121. Recognizing the European Federation of Food Banks as an organization using best practices
976 to manage food surpluses, the UNCTAD seeks to replicate the successes in food management
977 and distribution achieved by such programs. Thus, the UNCTAD:

978
979 a. recommends the use of food banking, a process used by more than forty countries
980 worldwide, in order to alleviate hunger, malnutrition, and place a level of controls on the
981 price of food. Food can be acquired through donation of food from farms, manufacturers,
982 distributors, and other sources where it would otherwise go to waste, and make it
983 available to the hungry through various community organizations. Food banks can also
984 work to create grass-root organizations and networks that make it possible for the
985 dissemination of information on food waste and nutrition, as well as encouraging greater
986 solidarity between participating peoples;

987
988 b. supports funding operational costs through partnerships with preexisting governments,
989 private or philanthropic organizations, and NGOs through the provision of funds by
990 Member States or UN bodies as well as through grants and loans from organizations –
991 namely the World Bank or the European Development Fund.

992
993 **D. Infrastructure: Transportation, Water, and Utilizing Infrastructure to Combat Food**
994 **Waste**

995
996 122. Increased transportation infrastructure will allow farmers currently engaged in subsistence
997 farming to have access to markets and increased production capacities. The UNCTAD
998 highlights that increased utilization of regional development banks for infrastructure
999 development projects can provide a stimulating effect for rural farming economies by providing
1000 funding and financing for rural developmental projects. The UNCTAD further seeks to enhance
1001 the effectiveness and rapidity of infrastructure development by:

1002

1003 a. Increasingly utilizing the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), as a
1004 coordinating body, to bring together all stakeholders for infrastructure development
1005 projects in order to maximize their effectiveness. Increased collaboration between
1006 developmentally focused organizations will ensure that aid is utilized with maximum
1007 effectiveness and that organizations with similar goals can combine resources in order to
1008 maximize the positive benefits. Many developing countries suffer from an extreme lack
1009 of infrastructure that limits their development and production capacities.
1010

1011 b. Increasing access to energy and electrical infrastructure. Such infrastructure is
1012 paramount to promoting the sharing of agricultural practices and the use of agricultural
1013 technology that can increase food production. The UN Secretary General's Sustainable
1014 Energy for All Initiative is a global initiative focusing on assisting Small Island
1015 Developing States and many Least Developed Countries by implementing sustainable
1016 electrical systems, including solar, wind, and hydropower, inter alia. The New
1017 Partnership for Africa's Development hosts an Energy Programme that, if it were
1018 supported by industrialized countries with available technology, especially sustainable
1019 electricity-generating technology, would increase its impact across the African continent.
1020 Increased access to electricity and affordable energy will allow developing Member
1021 States to increase their utilization of information and communication technologies,
1022 especially in rural areas, and therefore give rural and smallholder farmers increased
1023 access to information.
1024

1025 c. Encouraging cooperation with regional programmes that seek to provide government
1026 officials with technical assistance for developing road infrastructure, including the Asian
1027 Development Bank's Regulating and Sustaining Road Transport Programme that works
1028 with governmental authorities in regulating where roads go to maximize the effectiveness
1029 of regional infrastructure projects and national investment in physical infrastructure.
1030 Additionally, regional cooperation in transportation infrastructure between neighboring
1031 countries should be strengthened through bilateral and multilateral agreements on road
1032 and rail systems that should link marginalized regions to the global food markets, thereby
1033 facilitating the integration of agricultural countries into the world economy. The Central
1034 Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) and the Transport Corridor Europe-
1035 Caucasus-Asia (TRACECA) are examples of organizations already in existence.
1036

1037 d. Expanding access to harbors, including those on all major waterways and oceans,
1038 which represent an opportunity for Member States to trade food and related commodities
1039 on the global market and import food when needed. The GA should suggest that
1040 developing countries partner with regional economic communities, such as the Economic
1041 Community of West African States, the Caribbean Community, and Association of
1042 Southeast Asian Nations, inter alia, to develop roads that connect landlocked countries to
1043 harbors in collaboration with coastal countries for mutual benefit, and support increased
1044 international and regional cooperation to promote regional integration in terms of
1045 physical infrastructure. Such physical infrastructure will increase access to transshipment
1046 points and deepwater ports, especially for landlocked developing countries.
1047

1048 e. Encouraging international cooperation in implementation of intermodal transport
1049 systems, including harmonization of policies regarding air travel and the establishing
1050 trade ports, especially on small island developing states, with a view to facilitate food
1051 trade. Some regional organizations, including the European Union in their treaty
1052 outlining Trans-European Networks, have established effective frameworks for such
1053 implementation and harmonization, and the UNCTAD recognizes that further work by
1054 regional organizations in establishing such frameworks would be beneficial.
1055

1056 f. Encouraging further research and development in the agricultural sector, the UNCTAD
1057 recommends that non-governmental organizations such as Consultative Group on
1058 International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) assist developing countries in improving
1059 their agricultural sectors. By providing developing countries with the technical
1060 knowledge to establish a more efficient method of food preservation as well as
1061 integrating improved storage systems into their transportation systems, developing
1062 countries can make strides towards a more sustainable trading and agricultural system.
1063 Further, greater research is necessary to develop effective and more efficient
1064 organic/sustainable farming methods to prevent land erosion and ground contamination
1065 by fertilizers.
1066

1067 g. Enhancing mechanisms that promote research and innovation in transportation of food.
1068 Given the paramount importance attached by the UNCTAD to research and analysis, and
1069 the GA resolution *A/Res/66/220* that emphasizes using research systems to promote
1070 research and innovation, the GA should consider the potential increased role of the
1071 WFP's Operations Research Division in field of food transportation. The UNCTAD has
1072 identified that establishing a reward for scholars and university students that come up
1073 with innovative projects aiming at improving food transportation would encourage
1074 increased innovation in this field and that implementation of such a reward within the
1075 WFP should be considered.
1076

1077 h. Assisting developing countries in creating food storage facilities when implementing
1078 infrastructure development projects in order to limit the loss of food due to spoilage. The
1079 GA should consider encouraging Member States and regional organizations to partner
1080 with the Global Initiative on Food Loss and Waste Reduction of the FAO that provides
1081 frameworks to Member States on reducing food waste and loss, including guidelines for
1082 the utilization of food storage facilities. The Think, Eat, Save programme of the UN
1083 Environment Programme and FAO, in its promotion of food savings for countries with
1084 limited infrastructure, should also be considered for such partnerships.
1085

1086 123. Water is inextricably tied to agricultural productivity. It is essential when discussing
1087 infrastructure to ensure that Member States, especially developing Member States, have access to
1088 water such that they can establish irrigation systems, sanitation systems, and other necessary
1089 water infrastructure. The UNCTAD would highlight that water infrastructure can be improved
1090 by:

1091
1092 a. Expanding water infrastructure that allows for irrigation, including through partnership
1093 with the World Bank's Irrigation and Drainage Sector which provides financing for

1094 developing countries, in line with their specific development plans, to build irrigation and
1095 water infrastructure to increase their crop production. Enhanced crop production will
1096 increase local food availability and decrease net food imports at the national level.
1097 Subterranean irrigation techniques should increasingly be considered as they deliver
1098 water directly to plants roots and increase the efficient use of water.
1099

1100 b. Encouraging further assistance from the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity
1101 Development such that it can increasingly enhance capacity building in developing
1102 countries. Access to water for countries which currently lack adequate access, in addition
1103 to providing expert advise for such countries, should be a top priority for this programme.
1104 Without access to water of any kind, countries will be entirely unable to develop their
1105 agriculture.
1106

1107 c. Supporting the first pillar of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development
1108 Programme (CAADP) that focuses on Land and Water Management in the African
1109 region. Current land ownership issues, unsustainable use of water, and desertification
1110 threaten the ability of Africa not only to establish adequate land for farming, but also to
1111 have water in order to grow crops. CAADP should be strengthened with support from
1112 donor countries with financial, technical, and logistical support so that it can improve its
1113 efforts in this category. The TerrAfrica Sustainable Land and Water Management
1114 Initiative is an example of collaboration between CAADP and other bodies, in this case
1115 the Global Environment Facility, and such collaborations should be promoted and
1116 increasingly utilized.
1117

1118 d. Advocating for the cautious use of agrochemicals within the agricultural sector and
1119 examining the possibilities organic farming methods. The UNCTAD agrees that by
1120 reducing the loss of arable land due to soil erosion caused directly by extensive use of
1121 these chemicals, lowering the contamination of land and water which is contaminated by
1122 agrochemicals, and improving the overall quality of agricultural products around the
1123 world will further the points towards sustainable agriculture.
1124

1125 e. Promoting the maintenance of natural ecosystems, provide adequate food to residents
1126 and create a sustainable system of food production, and sustainable agricultural practices.
1127 The UNCTAD suggests that the GA consider creation of local initiatives and projects
1128 such as the Vietnamese Production System and other initiatives like Agricultural Market
1129 Information System which disseminates information to Member States.
1130

1131 f. Increasing UN partnership with non-governmental organizations in order to drive
1132 sustainable water initiatives in support of *Millennium Development Goal 7*. Non-
1133 governmental organizations that actively promote access to water in developing countries
1134 should be encouraged to do so and should increasingly coordinate with UN programmes,
1135 including UN-Water's Task Force on Water Resources Management, in order to
1136 maximize the results of their efforts.
1137

1138 g. Enhancing water sanitation to not only to ensure the longer term health of rural people
1139 and agricultural workers, but also helps to ensure that contaminated water does not enter

1140 crops which will later be consumed. The UN Water, Sanitation and Hygiene programme,
1141 hosted by the UN Children's Fund, should be utilized by Member States to specifically
1142 assist rural and smallholder farmers in gaining access to adequate sanitation, thus
1143 ensuring healthy crops and workers.
1144

1145 **E. International Cooperation, Trade, and Economic Integration: Impacts on Food Security** 1146

1147 124. The GA should consider methods by which Member States, especially developing
1148 countries, can cooperate increasingly in order to maximize their agriculture productivity.
1149 Regional programs and programs can protect and improve livelihoods and allow for increased
1150 collaboration, resilience, and sharing of best practices. International cooperation should be
1151 promoted by:
1152

1153 a. Increasing South-South efforts that will allow developing countries to improve their
1154 food security through cooperation. South-South driven efforts, including the Purchase
1155 from Africans for Africa initiative which is currently implemented in five African
1156 countries and seeks to coordinate rural agricultural producers in Africa with consumers,
1157 should be expanded across the African continent and replicated in order to promote
1158 Southern efforts to enhance food security.
1159

1160 b. Expanding the WFP's Purchase for Progress Initiative, which is currently in the pilot
1161 phase, and allowing it to continue it is effort to promote coordination amongst Member
1162 States and to purchase from smallholder farmers such that they have cash flows to fund
1163 increased agricultural production. This effort should be solidified and expanded out of the
1164 pilot phase to expand its positive work.
1165

1166 c. Increasingly utilizing and supporting at all levels the work of the Food and Agricultural
1167 Organization's (FAO) Special Programme on Food Security which focuses on providing
1168 technical and material assistance to farmers to improve sustainable agricultural practices.
1169 The FAO as an organization is paramount to enhancing global food security. UNCTAD
1170 advocates for increasing support to the FAO and partnerships between the FAO and other
1171 bodies.
1172

1173 d. Enhancing the relationship between the North and South which is integral to the
1174 permanent advancement of developing states. Cooperation between the North and the
1175 South, including through triangular cooperation. UNCTAD encourages all donor
1176 countries to meet their commitments made in the *Monterrey Consensus on Financing for*
1177 *Development*. In the *Monterrey Consensus*, the industrialized world committed to
1178 contributing 0.7% of their gross national income to official development assistance,
1179 including assistance that contributes to food security. While the UNCTAD recognizes
1180 that some donor countries may face challenges in meeting this level of official
1181 development assistance, it encourages Member States to be conscious of their prior
1182 commitments.
1183

1184 125. The UNCTAD recommends the creation of regional funds for infrastructure development in
1185 areas that do not already have one. These funds should be organized between intergovernmental

1186 organizations, non-governmental organizations, and private companies, including collaboration
1187 with the Association for Sustainable Human Development, the Global Policy Forum, Good
1188 Neighbors International, and the International Agency for Economic Development, inter alia.
1189 These regional funds should work on organizing cross country and regional rail systems to
1190 improve food trade and promote South-South cooperation and should additionally fund projects
1191 relating to refrigerated vehicles for food transportation and organization of road systems. The
1192 GA should also continue to encourage bilateral investment treaties between states in order to
1193 improve infrastructure in line with the *Nairobi Outcome Document*.
1194

1195 126. Becoming aware of the current state of global economic integration and seeking increased
1196 cooperation within the international community to further economic integration. In line with the
1197 *Accra Accord* and the *Doha Manar*, UNCTAD should become a more effective mechanism for
1198 negotiation and discussion. Completion of the Doha Development Agenda would be ideal, but
1199 other forums for trade discussion would allow the international community to come together at a
1200 faster pace. Discussions regarding tariffs and subsidies, when necessary, may be encouraged
1201 under the auspices of UNCTAD. Any trade barriers should align with the World Trade
1202 Organization Principles, including the most favored nation principle, but should also consider the
1203 needs of developing countries.
1204

1205 127. Replicating the efforts of the US-India-Africa Triangular Partnership in other regions. This
1206 partnership focuses on increasing agricultural production by supporting research in sustainable
1207 agricultural techniques and sharing of technology. This partnership provides an excellent
1208 example of triangular cooperation and can stand as a model for other triangular initiatives.
1209

1210 128. Assessing the impact of multinational corporations and ensuring that the role of
1211 multinational corporations continues to grow in the developing world. Public private
1212 partnerships between national governments and large corporations can allow for mutual benefit
1213 in terms of infrastructure, agricultural capacity, and trade, as many corporations require new
1214 infrastructure in order to operate and such infrastructure would also benefit the host nation. The
1215 UNCTAD therefore encourages Member States to collaborate with the UNCTAD's Business
1216 Facilitation Unit, which has conceived of and begun to implement a web-based e-government
1217 system to help developing countries and countries in transition work towards business facilitation
1218 through transparency, simplification and automation of rules and procedures relating to
1219 enterprise creation and operation. This system can contribute to greater transparency and
1220 efficiency in the public service, improved governance and cost reductions.
1221

1222 129. Increasing transparency in agricultural markets to allow Member States better predict and
1223 prepare for increases in food and related commodity prices. The UNCTAD's Infocomm provides
1224 transparency in commodities markets by compiling information about imports and exports and
1225 making it available to Member States. Additionally, the UNCTAD's Infoshare programme
1226 provides a web resource for producers such that they can verify current commodity prices and
1227 ensure that they are selling to intermediaries at a fair price. The GA should consider spreading
1228 information regarding these to programs to Member States, especially developing countries, to
1229 utilize these transparency initiatives and further encourage Member States to contribute to these
1230 programs by sharing information.
1231

1232 130. Increasing transparency at the international level through increased cooperation with the
1233 Trade Barrier Reporter. The Trade Barrier report seeks to gain voluntary information from
1234 corporations regarding how they are impacted by non-tariff barriers to trade that are often
1235 difficult to track at the international level. This will allow Member States to consider the impact
1236 of non-tariff barriers during trade negotiations. Trade negotiations that are linked to
1237 transportation between Member States should also be transparent and fair and be reported to the
1238 United Nations Treaty collection.
1239

1240 **F. Utilizing Education and Technical Assistance to Improve Food Security**

1241

1242 131. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through
1243 its Education for Rural People Initiative, enhances rural education in a number of developing
1244 countries. Expansion of this program, especially such that it increasingly provides education for
1245 women and children such that they can transition into productive economic roles, would allow
1246 for increased capacity and production of agricultural producers, and the UNCTAD would
1247 endorse the UNESCO expanding this initiative into additional countries. The UNCTAD has
1248 identified that education and technical assistance for agricultural producers and rural populations
1249 is a necessity for addressing the needs of low-income food deficit countries and further
1250 promotes:
1251

1252 a. Recognizing the importance of agricultural education to increase productivity, promote
1253 efficiency, implement technological innovations, and reduce food waste. The UNCTAD
1254 suggests that the General Assembly take steps towards educating small-scale farmers in
1255 proper harvesting and storage techniques. The UNCTAD believes that the E-Africa
1256 Programme should be strengthened to further deliver information and communication
1257 technologies to rural farmers throughout Africa and that when considering such
1258 programmes the possibility of expanding the programmes to other regions should be
1259 considered.
1260

1261 b. Promoting the first principle of the Five Rome Principles that highlights the
1262 importance of country ownership. The UNCTAD encourages the creation of agricultural
1263 programs at free or low cost to their agricultural sector including small farmers with
1264 programs such as Denmark Agricultural and Rural Development Sector (DARDS)
1265 Programme. While the UNESCO program is similar, the DARDS has a more focus on
1266 making sure that farmers are learning agricultural techniques that help towards nutritional
1267 and healthy agriculture.
1268

1269 c. Addressing the needs of rural farmers, which are wide and varied. In addition to the
1270 UNESCO's efforts, the International Fund for Agricultural Development's (IFAD)
1271 Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme specifically works to enable
1272 smallholder farmers to move from subsistence agriculture to commercial agriculture by
1273 focusing on adapting their agricultural techniques and knowledge to more modern
1274 standards, including proper tilling, soil management, and seed distribution. The
1275 UNCTAD would further highlight such educational efforts should focus on long-term
1276 sustainable agriculture.
1277

1278 d. Examining the impact of microfinance and how it can be utilized as a positive force. It
1279 is important to recognize that microfinance has allowed rural and smallholder farmers to
1280 increase their agricultural capacity by increasing their access to financial services. The
1281 UNCTAD is aware that microfinance has many positive affects, but also that some rural
1282 people have been negatively affected by debt. The GA should consider the focus of the
1283 United Nations Capital Development Fund, the largest microfinance initiative within the
1284 UN system, and the possibility of providing education to rural people regarding the use of
1285 microfinance such that they can utilize it when it will be beneficial but also understand
1286 the risks associated with debt. While initial microfinance initiatives, including the
1287 Grameen Bank, had return on investment of over 98%, more recent initiatives, especially
1288 in countries where there is not a culture for repaying debt, have had a far lower success
1289 rate.

1290
1291 e. Promoting technical and vocational and agronomical education and training (TVET)
1292 for agricultural producers. Education will become increasingly important as agricultural
1293 techniques improve. Such education and training will be required in order to maximize
1294 the benefits of any educational and agricultural advancement efforts. Additionally, in
1295 order to minimize the reliance of developing countries on industrialized partners,
1296 improvements in tertiary education that focuses on bioengineering and other agricultural
1297 efforts, will be vital. The GA should consider encouraging the UNESCO to provide
1298 frameworks for developing countries to establish TVET and tertiary education systems.
1299

1300 f. Expansion of the WFP's School Meals Programme which would allow for children to
1301 increasingly attend school, have access to nutritious food, and improve their quality of
1302 life in the long term. By providing meals to children, the WFP lessens the burden on
1303 households and improves local food security. Expansion of this programme across the
1304 developing world would be beneficial.

1305
1306 g. Ensuring that proper nutrition and broad health and nutrition education can address the
1307 lack of nutrient dense foods, especially for children, as this lack of nutrition often leads to
1308 growth stunting, mental impairment, lessened immunity, and long-term negative health
1309 effects. The UNCTAD highlights the WFP's Nutrition Programmes as a method by
1310 which states can address these issues as they provide women and children at risk of
1311 malnutrition with complementary and fortified foods.

1312
1313 h. Highlighting the education of women and promotion of support, technical assistance,
1314 knowledge sharing, and opportunities for female farmers. National institutions supported
1315 by non-governmental organizations, as has been demonstrated by the Jordan River
1316 Community Empowerment Programme that aims to support the most vulnerable
1317 populations through skill improvement outreach programs, should be encouraged to
1318 continue in their work.

1319
1320 i. Recognizing the impact of HIV/AIDS as one of the major factors increasing food-
1321 insecurity and malnutrition. As stated by the WFP, a poor nutritional status and HIV can
1322 reinforce each other in a vicious cycle. As recognized by WFP, WHO and UNAIDS, HIV
1323 infection undermines food security by reducing work capacity and jeopardizing

1324 household livelihoods. Thus worsening the food security status combined with
1325 malnutrition, the immune system of the individual is severely weakened, which increases
1326 susceptibility to coinfections and accelerates progression of HIV-related diseases. This
1327 combination can result in poverty, malnutrition and further health risks. Therefore,
1328 measures taken by EducAIDs, the comprehensive Global Initiative on Education
1329 regarding HIV & AIDS, should be included in the educational program to prevent
1330 malnutrition and food-insecurity.

1331
1332 j. Establishing regulations concerning health and food safety. These should include but
1333 are not limited to bacteria testing for E. coli and other types of bacteria, as well as setting
1334 fresh food safety standards with appropriate dates based on when the food spoils. Equally
1335 important is the focus on minimizing delays and inefficiencies in food transportation.
1336 Regulations should be tailor-made to each type of food and system of food preservation.
1337 They also should be designed to keep food fresh during food inspection.

1338
1339 k. Utilizing space-based technologies, among other methods, in order to monitor and
1340 promote sustainable efforts. The UN Space-Based Platform for Disaster Management
1341 and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) utilizes satellite mapping technology in a wide
1342 variety of ways, including for mapping the results of natural disasters, deforestation,
1343 desertification, and other phenomena visible from space. The GA should consider
1344 utilizing this programme, when requests to by Member States, to identify hotspots for
1345 biodiversity, ensure that areas that require conservation are maintained, and encourage
1346 sustainable land management techniques, including those techniques outlined by the
1347 Division of Sustainable Development of the UN Department of Economic and Social
1348 Affairs.

1349
1350 l. Considering the implementation of additional forums through which knowledge
1351 transfer can occur. While there are some existing bodies, including within the FAO and
1352 regional organization, a truly multilateral discussion including all Member States
1353 regarding the issues of food security would improve the global food security situation.
1354 This forum should include exchange of expert knowledge and best practices in policy-
1355 making.

1356
1357 **G. Food Security: Technology and Biotechnology**

1358
1359 132. Technology, especially agricultural farming technology and biotechnology, can transform
1360 traditional subsistence farmers into large scale producers. However, there are many challenges
1361 facing the developing world in having sufficient access to and utilization of such technologies.
1362 UNCTAD therefore suggests:

1363
1364 a. Expansion of the South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange to focus
1365 increasingly on sharing technology, including basic irrigation and harvesting equipment,
1366 and best practices related to agriculture and farming that would enable Member States,
1367 especially developing countries, to increase their agricultural capacity. Bilateral
1368 technology transfer, in a North-South fashion, would also increase the capacity of

1369 developing states to produce food for both internal consumption and for export.

1370

1371 b. Examining the use of genetically modified organisms and seeds. Developing countries
1372 may benefit from increased access to resilient seeds protected by intellectual property
1373 rights. Such genetically modified crops often increase crop yields and therefore overall
1374 food security, but also bring with them unique challenges for the developing world,
1375 including their cost and unforeseen spreading of genetically modified seeds. The
1376 UNCTAD recommends the World Intellectual Property Organization consider facilitating
1377 the sharing of intellectual property rights and should increasingly work to share such
1378 intellectual property rights with developing countries. Resilient seeds that are not
1379 restricted by intellectual property rights, including quinoa, should also be increasingly
1380 made available to developing countries. The needs of vulnerable smallholder farmers
1381 should be considered when dealing with intellectual property owned by large
1382 multinational corporations, in order to protect such farmers and promote agricultural
1383 development. Member States should be encouraged to exercise caution in utilizing
1384 genetically modified seeds, especially seeds that contain single-germination or self-
1385 annihilating mechanisms. Organizations that work to research seeds and make them
1386 available to developing countries, such as the CGIAR, should be consulted prior to
1387 utilizing seeds that contain such mechanisms.

1388

1389 c. The GA considers expanding the role of the FAO in researching the potential positive
1390 and negative impacts of genetically modified crops to ensure that developing countries
1391 are maximizing the effectiveness of such crops and minimizing the adverse effects in a
1392 sustainable and safe manner. Such research should be completed before utilization of
1393 new strains of genetically modified crops in developing countries. Both developing and
1394 developed countries should use caution in utilizing genetically modified crops, should
1395 utilize them only in accordance with national priorities and development plans, and
1396 should also examine organic options, including cross-breeding of crop species. FAO
1397 should therefore additionally increase research funding for organic options. The
1398 UNCTAD also expresses support for the work done by the Organic Agriculture
1399 Programme and Action Taken by the FAO and recommends more research initiatives to
1400 be taken on the issue of organic agriculture.

1401

1402 d. Supporting the creation of state-owned seed banks that conserve native seeds and
1403 provide them to small-scale farmers at low or no cost. This will simultaneously aid in the
1404 preservation of native biodiversity. Moreover, storing seeds limits the effects of natural
1405 and manmade disasters by serving as both preparation and protection against food crises.
1406 The UNCTAD will work in cooperation with the FAO to provide technical assistance in
1407 the creation of state-owned seed banks. The UNCTAD further encourages the
1408 establishment of more regional seed projects that work in tandem with Agricultural Field
1409 Schools to improve access to quality, natural seeds for small-scale farmers.

1410

1411 e. Utilizing the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC), emerging Southern
1412 donors, and funds from donor countries. The UNCTAD suggests that finances should be
1413 invested into vocational skills training across developing and provide them with technical

1414 assistance as well as agricultural infrastructure.

1415
1416 f. Encouraging multiple bodies to examine the potential concerns regarding health and
1417 agriculture. The World Health Assembly previously passed World Health Organization
1418 resolution WHA/53/15, which has been highlighted as requiring strengthening such that it
1419 can increase strengthen its capacity to assists Member States in ensuring the
1420 transparency, excellence, and independence in utilization of genetically modified seeds.
1421 Regional organizations that seek to ensure positive uses of biotechnology should be
1422 expanded, including the African Biosafety Network of Expertise.

1423
1424 g. Addressing the needs of developing countries with regards to agrochemicals,
1425 especially fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides which all allow for massive increases in
1426 agricultural productions and crop yields. Allowing developing countries and smallholder
1427 farmers to gain increased access to these agrochemicals is a difficult proposition as they
1428 are often expensive and have detrimental effects, when misused in the long term, on
1429 agricultural land. Regional initiatives, including the African Development Bank's African
1430 Fertilizer Financing Mechanism, which seek to provide mechanisms by which such
1431 farmers can gain access to agrochemicals, are encouraged, as is education of farmers such
1432 that they do not overuse such chemicals. Additionally, CGIAR should be increasingly
1433 utilized as a partner to support research in lowering the costs of agrochemicals and
1434 providing guidance to Member States on implementing national legislation to ensure
1435 sustainable use of agrochemicals.

1436
1437 h. Increasingly studying and sharing the positive benefits of traditional knowledge.
1438 While agrochemicals represent a potential growth area for developing countries, price
1439 fluctuations in agrochemicals often lead to food price volatility. Therefore, traditional
1440 techniques which lead to increased crop yields should be increasingly studied and shared
1441 via the UN Industrial Development Organization's Centres for South-South Cooperation
1442 which are currently implemented in over thirty developing countries. These centres
1443 should be implemented in additional developing countries to maximize the effectiveness
1444 and sharing of traditional knowledge. While agricultural development represents a
1445 positive force of growth for traditionally subsistent farmers, there are also cultural
1446 barriers which should be addressed. Therefore, Member states should proceed with
1447 cultural sensitivity, integrating traditional methods with modern techniques.

1448
1449 i. Examination of the impact of biofuels mandates from developed nations that may divert
1450 production of food crops into non-consumption crops, thereby increasing food insecurity
1451 and encroachment upon natural forests. The UNCTAD does understand that biofuels are
1452 important as a major source of energy for Member States but the committee further
1453 suggests that developed countries lower the current percentage of biofuels mandates and
1454 endorse the usage of second and third generation crops to effectively combat hunger.

1455
1456 j. Promoting the procurement of agricultural technologies in the global South.
1457 Technology can often be difficult to procure, especially for small villages and groups.
1458 UNCTAD recognizes that the advent of agricultural cooperatives can allow rural
1459 populations in developing countries to increase their access to agricultural technologies

1460 and increase their agricultural productivity. Member States, in coordination with UN
1461 Regional Commissions for technical support, would benefit from seeking to promote
1462 agricultural cooperatives at the national level.
1463

1464 **H. Increasing Agricultural Resilience to Natural Disasters and Food Crises** 1465

1466 133. Natural disasters, including earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, droughts, tornadoes, and a
1467 variety of others can have an immediate and dramatic negative impact on the availability of food
1468 to local populations. Some of the recurring ones, such as recurring droughts, can also have long-
1469 term negative impacts on the agricultural production, not only in developing countries but also in
1470 developed countries. Additionally, it can cause countries to temporarily have limited access to
1471 trading in global markets, both for exporting and importing food products. Member States must
1472 consider, however, that disasters also come in the form of food crises, which are often difficult to
1473 anticipate and mitigate the impact of. Therefore, the UNCTAD, noting the following actions to
1474 increase the resilience of Member States, especially developing countries, recommends:
1475

1476 a. Encouraging regional organizations and economic cooperations to increasingly seek to
1477 provide resilience to natural disasters, especially in limiting the negative impacts of
1478 disasters on food security. Regional bodies should consider focusing their food security
1479 efforts on establishing food reserves at the local and regional levels, as has been
1480 demonstrated by partnerships between the WFP and the Economic Community of West
1481 African States in Their Pre-Positioning for Predictable Access and Resilience test pilot
1482 initiative and the ASEAN Emergency Rice Reserve.
1483

1484 b. Adopting, at the international level, a commitment to support the actions outlined in
1485 the *Hyogo Framework for Action* especially its fourth priority order that calls for Member
1486 States to work towards increased resilience to natural disasters. By damaging agricultural
1487 infrastructure, natural disasters have an extremely negative impact on countries' ability to
1488 participate in international trade.
1489

1490 c. Utilizing the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, which is the
1491 premiere organization within the UN system for addressing the impacts of natural
1492 disasters, and allowing it to increasingly focus on the detrimental impacts of natural
1493 disasters on food security. Increasing awareness of natural disasters and access to early
1494 warning systems for rural and smallholder farmers would allow them to mitigate the local
1495 impact of natural disasters.
1496

1497 d. Providing Member States, especially low-income food deficit countries, with
1498 information about a looming food crisis, which can prove essential in mitigating their
1499 impact. FAO's Global Information and Early Warning System information utilizes
1500 statistical methods for predicting food and water crises, but this information is not made
1501 readily available to all Member States. The FAO should consider improving the
1502 technical support to the global South and assist officials in developing countries in
1503 understanding the information that they receive.
1504

1505 134. Additionally encouraging regional collaboration between Member States and inter-
1506 organizational cooperation in order to share and transfer knowledge related to drought
1507 management, such as the *Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)*, a project of
1508 World Meteorological Organization.

1509
1510 135. Increasing assistance, in terms of food, to states that host refugees, through a partnership
1511 between the UN Refugees Works Agency and the WFP. Refugees often greatly increase the
1512 burden on Member States and therefore states which host refugees will often require increased
1513 assistance in order to ensure that the Right to Food of the refugees is maintained. Increasing the
1514 speed with which humanitarian food aid is received for refugee hosting countries would greatly
1515 decrease the burden on these countries.

1516
1517 136. The involvement of civil society, private sector, relevant UN agencies, and NGOs is
1518 recommended for collaboration in preparing for natural and man-made disasters. Furthermore
1519 working with neighboring countries to develop plans to provide food during disasters and also
1520 relevant regional organizations is necessary to protect vulnerable populations. UN Country
1521 Teams are an excellent resource for collaboration between these organizations. In accordance
1522 with the statement, UNCTAD recommends that an international forum for the exchange of best
1523 practices in disaster preparation and a creation of plans be created in order to challenge these
1524 problems, and such a forum should be hosted by the UN International Strategy for Disaster
1525 Reduction.

1526
1527 137. Emphasizing the importance of agricultural sectors to those economies currently or
1528 formerly affected by war of inter-state conflict, as outlined in the *Dili Declaration* of the g7+.
1529 Specifically, the UNCTAD recommends that traditional peace and security bodies, including
1530 United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, inter alia, remain cognizant of the detrimental
1531 effects of conflict on the availability of arable land.

1532 1533 **I. MULTILATERAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION**

1534
1535 138. The UNCTAD acknowledges that a lack of cooperation and communication prevents the
1536 spread of necessary resources to agricultural development and food security, such as
1537 technological and policy exchange, and a framework is needed to stimulate the sharing of
1538 successful technologies and information for desiring Member States. The UNCTAD
1539 recommends enhancing the cooperation of Member States, through the creation of a regional and
1540 international, voluntary, knowledge sharing framework titled, *Regional Efforts for Development*
1541 *Declaration (REDD)*. The UNCTAD will oversee the cooperation and sharing of information
1542 through the framework illustrated by *REDD*. The *REDD* will promote regional sharing of
1543 successful agricultural technologies and information with Members States in need. Member
1544 States within similar climates and geographical environments should evaluate regionally, their
1545 agricultural strengths and weaknesses to better understand existing barriers to agricultural
1546 success. By sharing information from region to region through informational databases in
1547 correlation with the FAO, *REDD* will improve the multilateral relations between Members States
1548 of different regions. The General Assembly is advised to ensure that this framework is versatile,
1549 so that all regions may have the capability to participate. Technological information shared
1550 through the *REDD* should work in correlation with and expand the FAO's AQUASTAT database

1551 of statistics to include useful and beneficial agricultural technology. The UNCTAD understands
1552 that financial contributions to promote cooperation may be difficult for developing Member
1553 States to obtain. Therefore, we pledge to allocate funds from our Official Development Aid Fund
1554 to help increase the accessibility of this framework to developing Member States. Also, this body
1555 requests that the FAO contribute financial and technical assistance so that this framework may
1556 become a beneficial possibility for all Member States wishing to participate. The UNCTAD also
1557 welcomes other contributions from any entity willing and able to donate.
1558

1559 139. Information Communication Technology is a crucial topic that must be addressed on a
1560 multilateral basis to expand the scope of participation by Member States. Information
1561 Communication Technologies (ICTs) include technologies such as the Internet, computers, rural
1562 radio networks, and other telecommunication devices. These ICTs should be implemented in
1563 agricultural communities to provide rural agricultural villages and their inhabitants access to
1564 valuable market information concerning farming methods, crop yield information, weather
1565 reports and predictions, and information concerning expected prices in the future. ICTs not only
1566 improve the standards of living for individuals granted access, but also present opportunities for
1567 economic development as farmers will be more informed and connected to the global
1568 agricultural trade market.
1569

1570 a. Measures that promote the development of ICTs assist in providing food security by
1571 enabling Member States to increase the efficacy of agricultural exports and connect
1572 developing Member States with developed states.
1573

1574 b. The expansion of ICTs is crucial because it leads to increased research and
1575 development that provides greater food security.
1576

1577 140. The UNCTAD continues to affirm A/RES/60/212 and A/RES/64/222 highlighting the
1578 importance of triangular trade as it relates to South-South cooperation for development. Utilizing
1579 the triangular cooperation framework as an approach to development projects related to food
1580 security will allow beneficiary South-South partners to receive financial aid and assistance. In
1581 doing so, triangular cooperation respects state sovereignty and strengthens regional bonds
1582 between South-South partners. The UNCTAD encourages the use of the triangular cooperation
1583 framework to implement ICTs in agricultural communities as well as educate farmers with the
1584 knowledge of how to use ICTs to access market data and strengthen food security.
1585

1586 141. The UNCTAD recommends to the GA the implementation the Institute for North-South
1587 Integration and the Development of Economies (INSIDE) in order to strengthen existing
1588 mechanisms for partnership to the eminent issue of food security.
1589

1590 a. INSIDE will serve as an open-source platform to achieve food security and will ensure
1591 better access to markets for farmers, more efficient cooperation, and effective financing
1592 due to the nature of these partnerships.
1593

1594 b. INSIDE's responsibilities will include the coordination of development projects
1595 between donor and recipient states through the auspices of triangular cooperation.
1596

1597 c. This would consolidate research from the diverse Millennium Development Goals
1598 from the FAO, WTO, and other international organizations into one central database.
1599 This research, and all information pertaining to INSIDE initiatives will be made publicly
1600 available in order to allow for participation by non-governmental organizations and
1601 public-private partnership collaboration between MNCs, state governments and small &
1602 medium businesses, such as labor exchange programs that will benefit all parties
1603 involved in this arrangements in the hopes of achieving greater transparency in
1604 agricultural production and trade.

1605
1606 d. These projects would be based upon needs of Member States. Projects would prioritize
1607 the needs of states needing the most progress in the Millennium Development Goals.
1608

1609 e. INSIDE will strengthen existing initiatives to achieve food security and will be under
1610 jurisdiction of the United Nations Special Unit for South-South Cooperation (SU/SSC)
1611 The mandate of the SU/SSC was strengthened in 1978 by A/RES/33/134 during the
1612 Buenos Aires Plan of Action to include the promotion, coordination, and support of
1613 South-South and triangular cooperation globally within the United Nations.
1614

1615 f. This designation will avoid transaction costs, which normally occur with the
1616 implementation of new initiatives as the SU1/SSC is already funded by the existing
1617 United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation, as established in A/RES/60/212.
1618 Furthermore, the UNCTAD recommends that the United Nations Fund for South-South
1619 Cooperation be utilized to fund the costs of establishing INSIDE and carrying out
1620 INSIDEs food security development projects.

1621
1622 g. The UNCTAD suggests that INSIDE conduct annual reports to review the status of on-
1623 going INSIDE food security development projects carried out and established through
1624 INSIDEs triangular cooperation framework.

1625 1626 **J. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

1627
1628 142. The General Assembly must continue to encourage Member States to discuss the
1629 development of technology in relation to agricultural practices. Funding should be continually
1630 increased for production and food security by raising yields, preventing food loss, and creating
1631 pathways of international cooperation to spread agricultural knowledge to nations suffering from
1632 a lack of food security.

1633
1634 143. UNCTAD recommends that the General Assembly encourages Member States with the
1635 means to establish international cooperation organizations to make education programs which
1636 assists developing States with their agricultural sectors.

1637
1638 144. Realizing that it is people who make new technology and acquire new knowledge, the
1639 international community should empower the citizens of the world by offering incentives and aid
1640 to enhance the realization of human potentials.
1641

1642 145. Likewise, the international community should encourage entrepreneurship by pursuing the
1643 elimination of trade barriers bilaterally with emphasis on regional cooperation. This will
1644 facilitate small holder farmers in becoming a global competitor and contributor to international
1645 food security. UNCTAD recommends that the General Assembly organize a conference to
1646 discuss these eminent issues.

1647
1648 146. UNCTAD together with its member states should exert efforts in full cooperation to address
1649 issues and welcomes the needs to innovate agrotechnology in terms of research to discuss and
1650 develop more holistic measures. This will ensure efficient production in processing safe and
1651 quality products to render more efficient use of natural resources and arable land, to reduce cost
1652 of production that will lead to greater productivity and quality.

1653
1654 147. The UNCTAD suggests that the General Assembly provide a platform for discussion and
1655 engagement regarding ways to give incentives to talent belonging to developing and LDCs in
1656 effort to reduce brain drain. In order to support the growth of technology, the UNCTAD requests
1657 that the UNDP entertain the oversight of scholarship provision contingent upon action in an
1658 individual's homeland. Additionally, scholarships should be given with special emphasis on
1659 education concerning agricultural development and sustainable technology. Finally, UNCTAD
1660 wishes to invite members of the international community with similar development experience to
1661 partner with developing and LDCs to help guide the effort in a knowledge-sharing initiative.

1662
1663 148. In efforts to promote sustainable development and limit our damage to the environment the
1664 applications of science and technology would be most beneficial if targeted towards organic and
1665 clean uses. In addition to not harming the environment, organic agriculture is often cheaper. As
1666 such, developments that favor the use of organics should be applied over those that do not. The
1667 UNCTAD recommends the GA entertain discussion about creating an incentive structure for the
1668 use of green agriculture.

1669
1670 149. Realizing the importance of technology in forming more efficient international
1671 communication measures for knowledge transfer, technological developments in communication
1672 will increase the degree of cooperative building between States by making knowledge transfer
1673 easier. Therefore, communication developments and network developments will benefit
1674 cooperative building efforts to assist developing nations and should be promoted by the GA. We
1675 further endorse that Member states with strong ITS capabilities assist developing countries in
1676 building a network system that helps connect farmers, marketers, and other stakeholders in
1677 agribusiness, which drives investment and education to foster a stronger market structure for
1678 developing countries.

1679
1680 150. Furthering technology can be used to create a database of methods along with instructional
1681 videos or webinars to increase the ease of which employing efficient agricultural practices in the
1682 international community can be applied. This database should be composed of submissions from
1683 states that have originally developed the methods and are currently sharing them in educational
1684 programs internationally.

1685
1686 151. Furthermore the UNCTAD suggests a conglomeration between itself, the FAO, and the
1687 UNDP in the formation of an international panel composed of representatives from the

1688 respective committees to gauge and monitor the current development status of every member
1689 state in terms of food security, science and technology, and international commerce. With this
1690 information at hand, along with efficient communication, international cooperation efforts can be
1691 better targeted to regions that need the assistance the most, and/or could benefit from a specific
1692 agricultural technique.
1693

1694 152. The UNCTAD further encourages broader utilization of Geographical Information Systems
1695 to provide feedback on the terrain in the respective borders of Member States to help inform
1696 them on the most beneficial way to integrate specific crops.
1697

1698 **K. AGRIBUSINESS**

1700
1701 153. The UNCTAD encourages mutually beneficial cooperation between states, NGOs, UN
1702 bodies, and other organizations. Communication and the formation of partnerships with a diverse
1703 group is vital to enhancing the agribusiness industry.
1704

1705 154. Implemented through the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the
1706 UNCTAD seeks to foster more efficient agricultural methods. The UNCTAD advises the
1707 adoption of an integrated agro-ecological methodology in agricultural systems, such as the SRI,
1708 by imitating their approach and using it for other crops such as wheat, sugarcane, and teff (a type
1709 of grain).
1710

1711 155. The UNCTAD further recommends the exploration of alternative finance mechanisms such
1712 as rural financing, agriculture financing, and value chain financing. Additionally, the UNCTAD
1713 supports efforts to lower tariff levels. Lowering or removing tariff barriers can help Member
1714 States increase their capital flows.
1715

1716 156. UNCTAD endorses Member states to become involved with aid facilities and companies
1717 active in Agribusiness to subsidize their activities in LDCs. We believe this would serve as
1718 incentive to such companies. Additionally, the inclusion of a training program to teach Member
1719 States how to develop agribusinesses into their local economy would be beneficial. Member
1720 States can cooperate with UN bodies, such as the Food and Agricultural Organization, to learn
1721 best practices on training programs.
1722

1723 157. We request Member States, UN development agencies, and donors to integrate local
1724 populations, especially marginalized groups such as women and indigenous groups, into decision
1725 making mechanisms to respect the rights and active citizenship. We believe development
1726 programs must be directly anchored to the on-the-ground operations in order to reflect the real
1727 needs and struggles of the local population. Member States need to integrate a bottom-up
1728 approach where local populations are integrated into development and planning projects.
1729 Working with a UN agency, such as the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, can
1730 help with logistics and improve communication. Additionally, working with Humanitarian and
1731 Communication based NGOs can also prove to be vital in this process.
1732

1733 158. The UNCTAD suggests the implementation of assessment mechanisms to all development
1734 programs and projects relevant to agribusiness. The assessment mechanisms would evaluate
1735 agribusinesses and provide feedback on best practices, effectiveness, issues, and economic
1736 benefits to the agribusiness thus allowing Member States to provide food security for their
1737 citizens by their increase in capital.
1738

1739 **L. SUSTAINABILITY**

1740
1741 159. The UNCTAD has found that the most effective way to approach hunger through direct
1742 action, in the context of food security, is to implement and support the Millennium Villages
1743 project in a more expansive manner in order to gain higher international support through
1744 voluntary funding. By highlighting this programme to the General Assembly and United Nations
1745 Development Programme (UNDP) as a primary method to combat hunger in the most
1746 impoverished areas in the world.
1747

1748 a. By recommending the increase of voluntary funding going towards the Millennium
1749 Villages project by individual Member States, this will work towards benefiting the lives
1750 of the population inhabiting the regions where the project is implemented.
1751

1752 b. The UNCTAD also advises the expansion of financial support for the Millennium
1753 Villages programme through the integration of the FARMS fund into the existing funding
1754 mechanism, which incorporates all relevant stakeholders.
1755

1756 c. The UNCTAD is fully aware of the threats that price volatility poses to LDC's and
1757 especially its exponentially large effect on small farming communities. Millennium
1758 Villages should be required to keep a stock of food and emergency food funds. These
1759 measures are the best local solutions in combating food price volatility in a reserve will
1760 exist in the event of any emergency.
1761

1762 160. The UNCTAD is cognizant of the gathering current and accurate data, and promotes
1763 programme such as the Asian Development Bank's *Improving Economic and Social Statistics*.
1764 Programme such as this provide an accurate picture of the status of rural villages in a variety of
1765 developing countries. With the help of such statistics, Millennium Villages will be implemented
1766 at the places in most need, thus making them more efficient.
1767

1768 161. The UNCTAD recognizes that a subjective approach with regard to a State's strengths and
1769 weaknesses in agricultural capacity is imperative to food security. Application of the IFAD's
1770 RB-COSOP or variations of it would be the contextual method in which problems with capacity
1771 building for rural development would most progress. The RB-COSOP is a balance of funding-
1772 oriented and technical assistance strategies structured to aid rural, agriculturally dependent
1773 sectors. The RB-COSOP is also a system for strategic assessment of the agricultural capacity-
1774 building strengths and weaknesses of a country. Supplementing a comprehensive country
1775 development would be support for grassroots communities and rural sectors and would entail the
1776 application of RB-COSOP and IFAD programmes through the Distinctive Development
1777 Initiative.

- 1778 a. The Distinctive Development Initiative makes use of RB-COSOP and IFAD
1779 assessment tools (poverty situation, policy context, other donor activities and lessons
1780 learned from previous projects) and applied to Millennium Villages.
1781
- 1782 b. Community-strengthening programmes to cultivate arable land, village resource
1783 management for eventual self-sustainability.
1784
- 1785 c. Through this programme, the international community can engage in better
1786 technologies and education surrounding organic agriculture in order to yield higher
1787 quality foods, while simultaneously improving quality of life. The implementation of
1788 increased agricultural capacities will subsequently encourage farming in areas currently
1789 not conducive to agriculture due to social, cultural, and geographical limitations.
1790
- 1791 d. Education and technology innovation are encouraged to further agricultural initiatives
1792 in these communities.
1793
- 1794 e. Due to the unsustainable nature of non-organic agricultural production, organic
1795 processes are strongly encouraged through the use of sustainable and organic methods.
1796 The organic approach minimizes the costs of farming because it does not use
1797 agrochemicals. The decrease in costs will improve overall the quality of living for
1798 farmers and families because the profits from agricultural production will be higher.
1799 Organic production is also more beneficial for the environment because it decreases
1800 negative impacts on soil, increases water retention, and results in an environment in
1801 homeostasis overall.
1802
- 1803 f. Traditional methods of farming conducive to indigenous populations are also
1804 encouraged due to the inherent benefits of agricultural production within a specific
1805 geographical region.
1806

1807 162. The UNCTAD understands that the issue of food waste is unique for all Member States and
1808 the importance of mitigating food waste in order to reach a food-secure, sustainable world.
1809 Solely improving agricultural production will not solve the issue of food insecurity. The
1810 UNCTAD feels that in order to effectively solve the issue of food waste, all of its facets,
1811 beginning with the producer and continuing to the consumer, must be addressed not only on the
1812 international level, but also on the regional, sub-regional and national levels.
1813

1814 a. Understanding that connecting remote areas to the market increases transportation
1815 efficiency and speed, and by extension, reduces food loss, the UNCTAD recognize the
1816 immediate need for increasing access to affordable transportation infrastructure,
1817 specifically roads and railways by:
1818

1819 b. Expanding and implementing of the UNDP initiatives to support the development of
1820 national and regional transportation networks, such as the Developing Rural Transport
1821 and Infrastructure programme.

1822 c. Working to decrease time-consuming trade and transportation barriers by promoting
1823 the creation of Transnational Railway Agreements and Treaties, such as the proposed
1824 Economic Commission of Western African States rail network.

1825
1826 d. Recognizing the effect that the lack of suitable capacities to deal with agriculture
1827 surplus has on food waste, namely that a lack of storage facilities and contingency plans
1828 lead to the degradation and loss of agricultural commodities, the UNCTAD calls for
1829 increased financial, technical, and logistical support to regional food banks in order to
1830 establish new food banks under the auspices of regional organizations as well as
1831 strengthen existing ones, such as the East Asia Emergency Rice Reserve. The UNCTAD
1832 also believes that producers should consider contributing their surplus agricultural
1833 production in times of plenty, in order to have sufficient resources in times of need.

1834
1835 e. Cognizant that smallholder farmers comprise the main source of food production in
1836 developing countries and the world as a whole, the UNCTAD supports initiatives to
1837 promote the expansion of domestic agriculture production through addressing the needs
1838 of smallholder farmers.

1839
1840 163. The UNCTAD wishes to highlight the impact of improved factors of production on
1841 agricultural production. The UNCTAD would therefore like to encourage regional organizations
1842 to utilize programmes such as CGIAR (previously known as the Comprehensive Group on
1843 International Agricultural Research), which focus on the development of new and innovative
1844 agricultural factors and techniques.

1845
1846 164. The UNCTAD is also aware of the FAO position that by addressing the needs of women
1847 farmers, agricultural production can be more effectively and efficiently increased, and
1848 recommends that all relevant stakeholders focus on the promotion and empowerment of women
1849 farmers.

1850
1851 165. In order to combat hunger and malnutrition, it is essential to introduce a successful process
1852 that can be adapted, not just by one Member State, but by all. Although, the UNCTAD
1853 recognizes that there is no “one-size-fits all” solution to collectively help all Member States,
1854 agriculture is based on one fundamental component: the seed. The Triple-A initiative, proposed
1855 by the World Health Organization would provide developing states with an opportunity to
1856 flourish agriculturally and economically through Availability, Affordability, and Apomixis.

1857
1858 166. The UNCTAD recognizes ‘capacity building’ as a necessity in order to make biotechnology
1859 available to all member-states. The UNCTAD strongly recommends the General Assembly
1860 utilize the UNDP in promoting capacity building techniques, in order to help make bio-
1861 technology available by expanding education and skills according to member-states level of
1862 knowledge.

1863
1864 167. The UNCTAD promotes IFAD’s continue to support developing states that have benefited
1865 from rural funding leading to agricultural innovations in crop quality, technology, and training.
1866 Increased productivity in harvests means they can feed their families and take the surplus to
1867 market.

1868 168. In order to help the Millennium Villages and farmers in general to produce crops that will
1869 create and promote sustainability in agriculture, UNCTAD encourages the promotion of
1870 engineering in the form of apomixis as an optional component in the Millennium Villages and
1871 other programmes. This is a naturally occurring process in plants that solely requires education
1872 for farmers to learn the conditions required for plants to undergo this process. The result of the
1873 implementation of this technique is the ability of farmers to reuse advanced seeds each growing
1874 season with no loss of efficacy.
1875

1876 169. Fully aware of the importance that education plays in food security within individual
1877 Member States the UNCTAD encourages:

1878
1879 a. increased realization of the positive impact that farmer field schools have on local
1880 education of farmers on sustainable agricultural techniques and suggests that:

1881
1882 b. access and availability of farmer field schools be increased on a national level by
1883 increasing programmes such as the FAO's Education for Rural Peoples Initiative.
1884

1885 c. a platform for competitive applications for grants and scholarships for farmer field
1886 school initiatives overseen by the UNCTAD.
1887

1888 d. using the International Food Policy Research Institute to create a free information-
1889 sharing platform for developing countries to gain knowledge through the sharing of best
1890 practices with knowhow.
1891

1892 e. the UNCTAD also suggests the UN General Assembly support and promote the
1893 empowerment of women farmers through the expansion of programmes and initiatives,
1894 such as the Jordan River Community Empowerment Programme, that educate rural
1895 women about sustainable farming practices, assist in establishing women-lead micro,
1896 small and medium enterprises and promote fair wages for women farmers.
1897

1898 170. The UNCTAD is cognizant of the ever-evolving role of information communication
1899 technologies (ICTs) in sustainable agricultural development and overall food security and further
1900 recognizes the importance of increased access to these ICTs in development. The UNCTAD
1901 therefore suggests:

1902
1903 a. the further expansion and implementation of the Agriculture Market Information
1904 System (AMIS) to include information on additional crops and other food-related
1905 commodities, such as vegetable oils, and to involve more relevant stakeholders.
1906

1907 b. expansion of GPS and satellite technologies that give farmers access to imperative
1908 information on climate and land-use, such as the United Nations Platform for Space-
1909 based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER),
1910 which collects information from various stakeholders, including UN bodies and national
1911 and regional space agencies, on global weather trends and natural disasters, and relays
1912 this information in one comprehensive document available to Member State governments
1913 and the public.

1914
1915
1916
1917
1918
1919
1920
1921
1922
1923
1924
1925
1926
1927
1928
1929
1930
1931
1932
1933
1934
1935
1936
1937
1938
1939
1940
1941
1942
1943
1944
1945
1946
1947
1948
1949
1950
1951
1952
1953
1954
1955
1956
1957

171. Cognizant of the negative consequences of the use of agrochemicals and excessive exploitation of soil, the UNCTAD emphasizes the importance of organic agriculture. By promoting organic agriculture and reducing the use of synthetic agrochemicals, many negative impacts of agriculture, such as groundwater pollution, land degradation and environmental damage can be prevented. The UNCTAD also believes that organic agriculture will improve the overall quality of peoples' lives.

172. The UNCTAD in order to utilize the benefits of improved inputs while maintaining a commitment to organic agriculture, encourages the FAO Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) initiative to work in collaboration with other relevant stakeholders, including the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), to develop and disseminate organic agrochemical and pest-control technologies, such as pesticides derived from fruits and flowers, predation, and crop cycling, as these mitigate the negative consequences of synthetic agrochemical use and provide for more economically, nutritionally, and logistically beneficial agricultural production improvements especially to smallholder and women farmers.

173. In order to implement the expanded protocols of the SARD initiative, the UNCTAD recommends the establishment of a Fund for Agricultural Reform and Market Security (FARMS) under the auspices of the UNCTAD, which would utilize the budget of the UNCTAD, as well as voluntary contributions from Member States and other relevant stakeholders. This fund would be managed as a International Monetary Fund trust fund, and would be utilized in programmes and initiatives targeted toward agricultural development, especially the creation of small-scale food storage facilities; small-scale, community-based irrigation systems; sanitation systems; organic agrochemicals; natural predation; the promotion and incorporation of indigenous and traditional crops and farming techniques, such as the use of high-nutrition, climate-hardy crops like quinoa, and transportation infrastructure. Funds will be awarded to Member States based on application and approval.

174. The UNCTAD recognizes the need for strengthening the capacity and management of water sanitation and efficiency systems through encouraging and promoting the use of DRIP (rain-fed water) irrigation systems.

a. Use the resources from the FARMS to build human capacity through training and implementation by means of farmer field schools.

b. FARMS will further provide education on the importance of refraining from using harmful environmental substances, such as agro-chemicals, in order to ensure soil longevity, biodiversity and improved crop yields.

c. Understanding the use of agro-chemicals is often linked with pest control; FARMS will work to provide further education and funding for organic pesticides, as well as other organic methods of pest management, such as crop coverings.

1958 d. Recognizing that even forms of organic pesticides have over arching effects that reach
1959 into communities, the UNCTAD supports FARMS in their mission to work towards
1960 obtaining overall responsible use of organic pesticides.

1961
1962 e. Further, FARMS will assist in facilitating foreign investments between Member States
1963 in order to increase development, especially in regards to fostering indigenous
1964 development and self-sufficiency.

1965
1966 175. Understanding the need for food security for developed and developing countries without
1967 access to farmlands and their dependence on foreign imported food, the UNCTAD suggests the
1968 implementation of bilateral agreements pertaining to foreign farm investments. In order to
1969 provide extra support in the case of natural disasters and bans on exports in food producing
1970 countries that are relied on, foreign farm investments will allow countries to take control of their
1971 own supply of food without the interference of others. These investments will help countries take
1972 control of their own food security based on their own individual needs. We encourage countries
1973 with a surplus of land to offer what they don't need to other states that require assistance in food
1974 supply.

1975
1976 a. Investments in foreign farms will strictly be based on the output of crops being
1977 produced. Ownership by governments and private companies of the investor is strictly
1978 discouraged for both sides.

1979
1980 b. Farmland workers that are working on invested land will be determined by the
1981 countries in the agreement for this land to be used, whether domestic or foreign.

1982
1983 c. Forums for this to possibly be discussed could include but aren't limited to trade fairs
1984 and future conferences dealing on international trade. All agreements made this way
1985 would be completely voluntary without interference from outside parties.

1986
1987 d. Agreements between countries would be overseen by the UNDP in order to protect
1988 both parties.

1989
1990 176. The UNCTAD supports and recommends the creation and expansion of cooperative
1991 programmes within regional organizations, such as the ASEAN Integrated Food Security
1992 Framework (2009-2013), in order to help smallholder farmers be more productive and increase
1993 the sustainability of agriculture. These new and existing regional cooperative programmes could
1994 then work in tandem with the UN Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of
1995 Cooperatives, which provides a forum for these and other programmes to facilitate the sharing of
1996 best practices and attain access to information and other resources.

1997
1998 **M. FOOD PRICE VOLATILITY**

1999
2000 177. Due to the significant unanticipated spikes in food prices, food price volatility causes food
2001 inaccessibility which in turn leads to food security crises. This is especially detrimental to
2002 developing and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Food price volatility makes it very risky for

2003 individual consumers, producers and agricultural traders, as well as governments to take part in
2004 producing, buying or selling any agricultural products.

2005
2006 178. UNCTAD recognizes that volatility disproportionately affects the most vulnerable and poor.
2007 When food prices increase, low income households are unable to afford basic nutritional
2008 necessities. This often jeopardizes nutrition status, in addition to social factors. These factors
2009 include impacts on education, especially when families pull their children out of school since
2010 they need to work. Funds that used to be invested in health care or education are now going
2011 towards the food budget. Additional social impacts include negative effects on gender equality,
2012 employment access, among others. Ultimately all of these factors greatly impact food security.

2013
2014 179. This body is aware that during the 2008 food crisis many organizations worked to combat
2015 food insecurity, however there was a lack of policy coordination and collaboration among
2016 Member States. UNCTAD believes that cooperation between Member States, international
2017 organizations, non-governmental organizations, and governmental agencies is needed, in order to
2018 mitigate and eliminate excessive food price volatility.

2019
2020 180. Without increases in agriculture production and improvement in food distribution, the
2021 global community will have trouble feeding a growing population in the coming decades. Unless
2022 price volatility is rectified, several countries will see the attainment of the UN Millennium
2023 Development Goals as an impossible future.

2024
2025 181. Developing Member States have been increasingly affected by crop price volatility.
2026 Increased price volatility has been augmented by food policies, particularly by developed States.
2027 In addition to trade and WTO reform, the integration of small-scale farmers, particularly among
2028 indigenous populations, into the existing international value chain will increase the food supply
2029 and help stabilize commodity prices by increasing the number of producers in the market, which
2030 will yield higher crop output and the growth of local and indigenous crops.

2031
2032 182. The UNCTAD, as a member of the Secretariat of the Agricultural Market Information
2033 System (AMIS), recommends extending the AMIS mandate to include additional Member
2034 States. This would allow Member States to coordinate policy and strategies in the Rapid
2035 Response Unit and would allow for access to the Global Food Information Group that monitors
2036 the supply and demand of the different crops, as well the current commodity prices. This policy
2037 cooperation between Member States will greatly help mitigate the negative impacts of price
2038 volatility, and work towards preventing spikes in food prices as it allows countries to coordinate
2039 policies when initial indications of price spikes are received as indicated by the lack of
2040 cooperation during the 2008 Food Crisis. Through the use of AMIS experts from different
2041 regions of the World, the Rapid Response Unit creates and recommends policies for AMIS
2042 participants that help mitigate the negative effects of price volatility. The success of this system
2043 becomes evident in the First Year Progress report delivered on October 2012. AMIS, during its
2044 first year of existence, was able to recommend successful policies regarding the Black Sea region
2045 weather conditions affecting crops that reduced food supply. The Market Monitoring Group is
2046 able to provide timely, reliable and accurate information on supply and demand. Additionally, it
2047 collects and disseminates data on Member States policy developments which potentially can
2048 impact the market. By having access to AMIS, more developing countries can receive necessary

2049 information on how to reduce and stabilize food prices, and will be included in the early warning
2050 capacity, and as a result strengthen their food security.

2051
2052 183. The UNCTAD recognizes that an essential component to combatting food insecurity is the
2053 integration of small-scale indigenous farmers into the existing international value chain. To
2054 facilitate this integration, UNCTAD recommends that the General Assembly encourage Member
2055 States to incorporate small-scale indigenous farmers into regional and international market value
2056 chains, as demonstrated by Bolivia in their Integration of Indigenous Andean producers into new
2057 national and international value chains (MDGF-2093-D-BOL). Incorporation of indigenous
2058 producers as funded by the MDG Achievement Fund, works to strengthen national and regional
2059 State capacities by incorporating indigenous crops and farming techniques into international
2060 markets which strengthens the ability of rural, indigenous farmers to realize consistent crop
2061 yields and to mitigate the effects of crop price volatility.¹⁶ UNCTAD strongly recommends that
2062 the General Assembly makes a policy recommendation and asks that Member States invest in
2063 their agricultural sectors, focusing especially on increasing productivity in ways such as
2064 improving infrastructure, modern farming technology and improving seed development in order
2065 to increase their resilience to global spikes in prices. This also greatly increases food supply that
2066 helps stabilize volatile prices in local and regional levels.

2067
2068 184. The UNCTAD further recommends that the GA Plenary discusses the issue of regulatory
2069 action to prevent private institutions from pushing up food prices and restrict access to the
2070 commodities market during their next meeting.

2071
2072 185. The UNCTAD further recommends the creation of a communication organization with the
2073 sole purpose of coordinating efforts and facilitating communication between organizations such
2074 as UNCTAD, FAO, the United Nations Institution for Training and Research, and other
2075 independent organizations, such as the Center for Development Research and International Food
2076 Policy Research Institute. The Communication Organization will be known as *Sustainable*
2077 *Environmental Economic Development Success* (SEEDS). Many UN agencies, NGOs, and
2078 independent organizations provide reports on food price volatility; however fail to adequately
2079 communicate with like-minded organizations working on similar initiatives. SEEDS would
2080 fulfill a void in the international system, as many organizations produce similar reports but do
2081 not communicate with each other and thus can be inefficient. This leads to greater efficiency
2082 among the report producing entities on the issues of price volatility.

2083
2084 186. Keeping in mind the over encompassing goal of providing food security to developing
2085 Member States, this Conference further supports the mobilization and use of information and
2086 communication technologies (ICTs) by Member States so as to improve food market
2087 transparency and help governments make informed responses to global food price spikes
2088 complementary to the monitoring by AMIS and the research provided by the Consultative Group
2089 on International Agriculture Research (CGIAR).

2091 **N. INSTITUTION BUILDING**

2092
2093 187. Recommends the creation a scientific independent intergovernmental body, The United
2094 Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Food Security (UNIPFS) which researches, disseminates,

2095 and maintains comprehensive assessments of current agricultural information and key variables
2096 pertaining to food security. This information would be used to help evaluate potential
2097 consequences stemming from future decisions of Member States or the international community.
2098 These characteristics and procedures would allow UNIPFS to serve as a multilateral and
2099 internationally accepted authority on food security, allowing it to provide authoritative
2100 recommendations. The UNIPFS would:

- 2101
- 2102 a. operate according to the governing principles established by the UNCTAD to:
- 2103
- 2104 i. mitigate the effects of food scarcity on populations,
- 2105
- 2106 ii. determine and assess the impact of food scarcity on international populaces,
- 2107
- 2108 iii. provide the UNCTAD, Member States, and other relevant stakeholders with
- 2109 the information and analysis needed to craft effective policy.
- 2110
- 2111 b. be composed of the Report Bureau, the UNIPFS Panel, the Secretariat, working groups
- 2112 established by the UNIPFS Panel, and the Chairperson.
- 2113
- 2114 c. vest the Report Bureau with the power to aggregate, verify, and disseminate reports
- 2115 concerning the impact of economic, political, environmental, and technological forces on
- 2116 international food security, *inter alia*:
- 2117
- 2118 i. macroeconomic fluctuations,
- 2119
- 2120 ii. bilateral trade policies,
- 2121
- 2122 iii. drought and other natural disasters,
- 2123
- 2124 iv. warfare and other conflicts,
- 2125
- 2126 v. the empowerment of women and minority populations,
- 2127
- 2128 d. charge the Report Bureau with the production of the aforementioned reports by
- 2129 volunteer experts and scientists, who are in turn drawn from Member States. The Report
- 2130 Bureau will create and disseminate an annual summary for policy makers, the passage of
- 2131 which would require unanimous approval by all states party to the Panel.
- 2132
- 2133 e. facilitate the workings of the UNIPFS Panel, drawn from the academic and scientific
- 2134 community. Representatives should be appointed directly from their home governments,
- 2135 however, intergovernmental organizations and nongovernmental non-governmental
- 2136 organizations are encouraged to participate as observers.
- 2137
- 2138 f. task the UNIPFS Panel with the maintenance and modification of the UNIPFS's
- 2139 structural arrangements, rules of procedures, and membership requirements.
- 2140

2141 g. create a dedicated UNIPFS Secretariat to interface and cooperate with existing relevant
2142 international bodies, *inter alia*;

- 2143
- 2144 i. the United Nations Environmental Program,
 - 2145
 - 2146 ii. the UNCTAD
 - 2147
 - 2148 iii. the Food and Agriculture Organization's Committee on World Food Security
 - 2149
 - 2150 iv. the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,
 - 2151
 - 2152 v. the Human Development Report Office,
 - 2153
 - 2154 vi. the World Food Program
 - 2155

2156 188. Instruct the UNIPFS Secretariat to carry out the day-to-day affairs of the body. It would
2157 serve to administer those programs and initiatives developed by both the UNIPFS Panel and
2158 Working Groups, provide staff and resources for the promulgation of Report Bureau Materials,
2159 and assist the Chair in the facilitation of meetings and events.

- 2160
- 2161 a. establish Working Groups at the behest of the UNIPFS Panel. These Groups would be
2162 tasked with furthering the objectives established in the governing principles.
 - 2163
 - 2164 b. be responsible for the selection of its Chairperson by the running of biennial elections.
2165 This chair would be assisted by a similarly elected body of Working Groups and
2166 facilitated by the secretariat.
 - 2167
 - 2168 c. ensure that Member States are actively engaged in all levels of the bodies activities,
2169 and ensure that all agreements reached by the body are voluntary and in full recognition
2170 of each Member's sovereign rights.
 - 2171

2172 189. Recommends a renewed focus be placed upon the role of small and medium sized
2173 enterprises on agricultural development and productions. The UNCTAD supports:

- 2174
- 2175 a. increasing the availability and access to capital for small landholders, urban
2176 communities, and enterprises by providing microloans to the aforementioned groups,
2177 easing terms of credit requirements, and securitizing loan instruments for development
2178 purposes
 - 2179
 - 2180 b. the importance of agricultural sectors to those economies currently or formerly
2181 wracked by war of inter-state conflict.
 - 2182
 - 2183 c. cooperation with domestic and international corporations to increase awareness of
2184 overfishing in the national waters and the exhaustion of natural resources in order to
2185 ultimately achieve compliance with existing international protocols, standards, and
2186 agreements.

2187
2188 190. Discourage the hoarding and withholding of food commodities from agricultural markets
2189 which artificially creates scarcity, increases foodstuff prices, and injects unnecessary volatility
2190 into international markets.
2191
2192 191. Recommends that the future actions of the UNCTAD and the UNIPFS remain cognizant of
2193 the inexorable link between climate stability and food security. Having recognized this
2194 relationship, the UNCTAD recommends the inclusion of initiatives to:
2195
2196 a. reduce and mitigate emissions stemming from the consumption and production of
2197 hydrocarbons through the incorporation of sustainable energy projects, *inter alia*, wind,
2198 hydropower, and solar generation. UNCTAD further recommends that while these
2199 projects can be funded by aid and disbursements from the international community,
2200 capital funding should be market-led.
2201
2202 b. create non-binding spending targets and outcome goals designed to spur efforts
2203 designed to mitigate the impact of climate change on agricultural productivity. These
2204 goals and targets would help to motivate and promote Member State initiatives to pursue
2205 sustainable practices.
2206
2207 192. To achieve food security, agricultural production plays a crucial role. This sector is most
2208 strongly affected by climate change. It is important to increase understanding of how to better
2209 adapt to climate change and attempt to hinder its affects in the future. For this purpose we
2210 recommend the FAO and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) collaborate to further
2211 research the specific effects that climate change has on agricultural production in order to
2212 educate farmers. The UNCTAD suggests increased education in the following areas:
2213
2214 a. The potential impact of rising temperatures on agricultural pests and diseases, and
2215 increased desertification.
2216
2217 b. How increased biodiversity and diversification of crops can lead to increased soil
2218 quality thus decreasing vulnerability to the harmful effects of climate change such as
2219 unpredictable levels of rainfall.
2220
2221 c. Changing rainfall patterns require farmers to increase their effectiveness in the use of
2222 artificial irrigation such as the use of aqueducts.
2223
2224 d. The effects of change in sunshine levels on crop production and the specific
2225 characteristics of seeds.
2226
2227 e. The impact of the rise in the concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide on
2228 agricultural operations and productivity and the range of products offered by the
2229 agricultural sector.
2230
2231 f. Changes in grassland species composition including deep rooting or draught tolerant
2232 species.

2233
2234
2235
2236
2237
2238
2239
2240
2241
2242
2243
2244
2245
2246
2247
2248
2249
2250
2251
2252
2253
2254
2255
2256
2257
2258
2259
2260
2261
2262
2263
2264
2265
2266
2267
2268
2269
2270
2271
2272
2273
2274
2275
2276
2277
2278

O. EDUCATION

193. The UNCTAD proposes primary goals that encourage fair trade, which involve technological advancements that enhance food processing capabilities, along with methods and structures that will provide advancements in food production in areas where there is high potential but low investment, thus ensuring equitable development. Member States can draw inspiration from Saudi Arabia's Initiative for Saudi Agricultural Investment Abroad in Ethiopia.

194. Preserving the natural stocks of arid land is an important issue that numerous countries currently face. To alleviate this problem, the UNCTAD supports programs designed to educate farmers on which crops are most suited to be efficiently grown in their specific climate. This education would be supported by efforts to modernize the techniques used by smallholder farmers, including education in crop rotation, over-grazing, and programs aimed at raising awareness of environmentally sustainable practices.

195. The UNCTAD encourages the creation of programs such as S.E.A.L. (Sustainable Environmental and Agricultural Learning), which would encourage developing countries to invest in sustainable, economic, and organic agricultural products. Using natural resources would foster the application of eco-friendly practices and edible, pollutant-free products, to aid in combating commodity price volatility, as reiterated by A/RES/66/221, which declares 2013 as the international year of quinoa. It would also aid a transition to biofuels. In order to facilitate this transition, the UNCTAD would recommend to the General Assembly to create a plan of action for the proper management of agricultural procedures and environmental concerns. Additionally, programs should incorporate input from other relevant stakeholders including local communities and vulnerable populations.

196. To address water shortages, farmers can be taught techniques to maximize the effectiveness of their water usage and communities can be taught water sanitation techniques that increase the amount of usable water. The UNCTAD further recommends the negotiation of memorandums of understanding between countries and regions sharing water sources to ensure their sustainable use. The UNCTAD looks forward to the gains made by the creation of sustainable irrigation systems in Africa and other developing regions that are increasingly vulnerable to drought due to climate change and natural disasters.

197. Innovations in seed resilience, nutrition, and yields will go a long way in addressing food shortages and will allow smallholder farmers to increase their participation in global markets by allowing them to grow food beyond a subsistence level. An example of an agricultural method that increases crop yields is the System of Rice (Roots) Intensification. Growing specific crops, like wheat, potatoes, and rice above the ground using hydroponic technology while they are young and then transplanting them into the ground in a grid pattern has led to a 30 to 45 per cent crop yield increase with no extra cost to the producer because there are no additional seeds that need to be procured. Assessment mechanisms to determine which naturally enhanced crops provide the best yields would allow states to share information on the most successful crops. The UNCTAD calls for up-to-date reports and data simulations that encompass naturally enhanced crops, put together by each Member State and then reported to the body for evaluation.

2279 Furthermore, this Conference suggests that the reports include the annual crop yield statistics
2280 when utilizing these crops in response towards any difference in the environment.

2281
2282 198. The UNCTAD emphasizes the role that women and marginalized populations play in the
2283 local economy and subsistence agriculture. A/RES/66/220 illustrates the inequality that
2284 smallholder farmers, including marginalized populations, face in obtaining access to critical
2285 agricultural utilities. Encouraging education for those marginalized peoples is critical in order to
2286 achieve a more productive labor force in the agricultural sector. The UNCTAD recognizes the
2287 difference in cultural views and promotes the advancement role of the role of women with
2288 respect to a state's sovereignty and social norms.

2289
2290 199. The UNCTAD understands that farmers without the knowledge to properly participate in
2291 the global economy cannot efficiently distribute and market their products to a world that
2292 increasingly demands food. Global markets require individuals who practice and understand
2293 proper marketing and economic methods. In order to do so, the UNCTAD suggests providing
2294 schooling to educate the farming communities through the FAO's Farmer Field Schools.

2295
2296 200. In order to achieve and maintain agricultural independence, this body recommends making
2297 advances in agricultural education and technology. Local farmers who engage in ecological
2298 agriculture, organic farming, agro-ecology, and regenerative agriculture will see rises in their
2299 annual crop yields and decreases in their environmental footprints, as stated in the UNCTAD's
2300 report, *Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security in LDCs*.

2301
2302 201. This body highly suggests coordination with existing organizations that specifically address
2303 agricultural education. Developing Member States are highly encouraged to participate as their
2304 population benefits most from agricultural education. The UNCTAD promotes the use of local
2305 organizations to ensure an on-the-ground approach to food security. We strongly promote the
2306 empowerment of organizations that address the issue regionally in order to successfully tackle
2307 food scarcity in the world, especially in LDCs, because regional bodies possess more knowledge
2308 about the needs and available resources of local communities.

2309