Documentation of the Work of the World Food Programme (WFP)

Conference A
## World Food Programme (WFP)

### Committee Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Danielle Erica Curtis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Director</td>
<td>Alejandro Briones Sosa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Esther Alexandra Bickel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Agenda

I. Empowering Women to Combat Food Insecurity  
II. Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger  
III. Alleviating Hunger Through the Strengthening of Global Partnership

### Resolutions adopted by the Committee

| Code     | Topic                                      | Vote                                               |
|----------|--------------------------------------------|                                                   |
| WFP/1/1  | Empowering Women to Combat Food Insecurity | Adopted without a vote                             |
| WFP/1/2  | Empowering Women to Combat Food Insecurity | 25 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 3 abstentions  |
| WFP/1/3  | Empowering Women to Combat Food Insecurity | 26 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 2 abstentions  |
| WFP/1/4  | Empowering Women to Combat Food Insecurity | 25 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 3 abstentions  |
| WFP/1/5  | Empowering Women to Combat Food Insecurity | 26 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 2 abstentions  |
Summary Report

The World Food Programme held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

I. Alleviating Hunger Through the Strengthening of Global Partnership
II. Empowering Women to Combat Food Insecurity
III. Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger

The session was attended by representatives of 28 Member States and 1 non-governmental organization.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of II, III, I, beginning discussion on the topic of “Empowering Women to Combat Food Insecurity.” By Monday, the Dais received 6 proposals covering various topics, ranging from mechanisms to involve women in regional and local chains of food supply, to the inclusion of women in the agricultural industry to eradicate hunger and enhance food availability at all levels. Delegates also proposed innovative alternatives to enrich WFP’s initiatives with a gender-based crosscutting directive to include women in educational frameworks for business and entrepreneurship, broaden food-assistance missions at the regional level, strengthen financing platforms to guarantee food access for all, and integrate women in multilateral programs of innovation for food assistance and food supply.

On Tuesday, two working papers about providing financial and business opportunities for women in rural areas to eradicate hunger were merged. The flow of the debate evidenced an atmosphere of cooperation, collaboration, and diplomacy. The spirit of consensus at WFP remained as the basis during informal negotiations. On Wednesday, 5 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, 2 of which had amendments. One of the draft resolutions was adopted by acclamation, while the rest were adopted with outstanding support of the whole body. After voting procedure, Member States started discussing and working on the second topic of the agenda. Overall, the committee addressed the topics with conviction, responsibility, and respect; the delegates enriched the debate with interesting perspectives towards the enhancement of WFP’s work in the eradication of hunger.
The World Food Programme,

Emphasizing the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, established in 1945, which guarantees the equal rights of men and women,

Guided by the WFP Strategic Plan 2017-2021 and the Gender Policy 2015-2020,

Aware of the importance of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) of 1979 to combat the deep-rooted stereotypes about women’s responsibilities within the family and communities,

Considering General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2017), “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” that established the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and more specifically, SDG 2, Zero Hunger, and SDG 5, Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment,


Recognizing General Assembly resolution 71/245 (2016), “Agriculture development, food security and nutrition” which reiterates the essential contributions of women to combat world hunger and underlines the situation of women in rural areas, and General Assembly resolution 70/132 (2015), “Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas,” which gives attention to the critical role of rural women in achieving food security, notably through smallholder female farmers, and General Assembly resolution 64/215 (2010), “Legal Empowerment of the poor and eradication of poverty,” which recognizes the relevance of women’s legal awareness, resources and access related to food security, employment, and land,

Deeply concerned with the lack of equal rights of men and women in the food and agriculture sector, as reinforced in the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) and General Assembly resolution 71/245 (2016),

Bearing in mind the Rural Women Empowerment Programme (RWEE) organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD), and the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and its great impacts on rural women in Rwanda, and recognizing this program as a key factor in making women full participants in their communities, in creating job opportunities for women, and providing them with social and environmental capital,

Taking into consideration the Food for Education (FFE) component of WFP’s Country Programme, which provides that female school enrollment has increased by 80% by encouraging school attendance through food incentives,

Considering that women are the key to fostering sustainable agricultural diversification of the world’s food production, and that their empowerment is based on the opportunity to have a decent job and improvement of labor force in agricultural matters, which stands at 43% in developing countries,

Noting that education is a key factor to reducing child malnutrition over time as, considered by The State of Food Security in the World, study showing that women’s education contributes to 43% of the reduction in child malnutrition over time, conducted by FAO on May 2015,
Observing the great impact of sustainable agricultural practices, such as traditional seed supply systems and access to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, education, and training,

Keeping in mind the initiative generated by FAO, IFAD, and WFP titled “Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women,”

Further keeping in mind WFP’s initiative Purchase for Progress (P4P), that connects smallholder farmers to markets, giving them an opportunity to grow their businesses and improve their lives and those of their entire communities,

Acknowledging the UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (UN-INSTRAW) as the most important organization focused mainly on research and training programs to achieve gender equality and women’s empowerment, and the valuable contribution this program could make to providing food security to women,

1. **Strongly considers** the creation of the Rural Women Empowerment Programme (RWEP) in rural areas to empower rural women for the sake of encouraging them to participate in food assistance-related missions, and to integrate them into the agricultural sector inspired by, and working under a modified and enhanced previous structure of the RWEE:
   a. Monitored by Member States in cooperation with WFP, FAP, and UN-Women;
   b. In partnership with local agencies working in the field of agriculture, women empowerment, and food assistance, alongside educational experts from INSTRAW, in collaboration with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and regional programs, such as the Asian University for Women in Asia, and legal and paralegal experts and advisors from local communities such as the CFJJ/FAO’s joint trained group of paralegals working for the local NGO AMUDEIA in Sierra Leone;
   c. Funded through a multilateral fund to contribute even more effectively in improving the situation of both disadvantaged women, and global food security, and including:
      i. Encouraging the Strategic Resource Allocation Committee (SRAC) of WFP to allocate the necessary part of the annual WFP budget to the RWEP;
      ii. Appreciating funds from private stakeholders, as well as NGOs, such as collaborative funds like BackHer and IFAD;

2. **Strongly recommends** the future board of the RWEP to implement a first segment within the RWEP called “Educate Rural Women” to educate rural women through training in the agriculture sector, and establish a gender-integrated society in:
   a. Literacy and writing with a focus on nonfiction, related to running an agricultural business such as the courses implemented in the RWEE;
   b. Basic financial knowledge, business skills, and microfinancing;
   c. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM);

3. **Further recommends** the implementation of a second segment within the RWEP that would be called “Women in Agriculture,” to empower rural women by enhancing their skills and giving them tools to participate more in food assistance-related missions and projects, by:
   a. Integrating a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of development policies and programs, including budget policies, paying increased attention to the needs of rural women to ensure that they benefit from policies and programs adopted in all spheres and that the disproportionate number of rural women living in poverty is reduced;
b. Encouraging the integration of a gender perspective in macroeconomic policies and developing appropriate social support systems;

c. Recommending the implementation of agriculture workshops monitored by local agriculturists and experts with online trainings provided by FAO in cooperation with the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in addressing rural women between the UN, private sectors, and NGOs, to boost women’s competencies and skills in the empowerment of women in agriculture and food issues, by:

i. Expanding of women access to land and rural finance, which is critical to closing the productivity gap between men and women;

ii. Improving rural women’s access to training and information, since knowledge of farming is critical to productivity;

iii. Promoting food farms by involving students with land and equality between women and men in rural work, such as the Farms to School Canada initiative;

d. Calling upon the inclusion of workshop projects within the RWEP initiative such as Kenya Agriculture Productivity and Agribusiness Project (KAPAP), created for women centered on agricultural production methods, technology, and innovation in agriculture and nutrition security, that includes:

i. A transparent platform available to every member of the group in order to ensure the highest degree of technology and innovation;

ii. Teachings by professionals working in collaboration with UN-INSTRAW and specialized in agricultural production, nutrition, food security, and women’s development, that specifically understand the climate and culture of the area;

iii. A strong emphasis on teaching women and encouraging them to develop tools to be innovative in the agricultural field;

iv. Teaching women basic skills concerning farming, business, and health constraints, as in the National Action Plans of France and of the United Kingdom;

v. Collaborating with NGOs, public and private sectors, to create better programs in the educational sector focused on empowering women;

4. **Further invites** the implementation of a third segment within the RWEP called “Women’s Access to Justice” to empower rural women by giving workshops addressing the right to food, as well as rural women’s rights and issues, and an advocacy platform within the RWEP monitored by legal experts, and offering:

a. Legal services and juridical hearings with the assistance of the UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) to assemble rural women and promote their empowerment in food assistance, and to give them a voice to improve their visibility in juridical cases which would enable them to have access to justice;

b. Courses and workshops on the subjects of the right to food, property rights, agri-business law, and agriculture law;

c. A research platform in partnership with UN-INSTRAW on national agriculture legal framework, rural women’s rights, and their access to justice;

d. Establishment of a legal support through civil society organization-based (CSO) legal support services: legal clinics, legal aid, paralegals, or community legal assistance, such as Latin American Women’s Aid (LAWA), Women’s Legal Centre (WLC), and the Asian Law Alliance, to ensure women’s rights, all services should target food insecure women;

e. Legal services, judicial hearings, and support that will not touch upon state sovereignty and need to be permitted, evaluated, and made transparent by and to the regional and national authorities;

5. **Proposes** extending and modifying the program FFE, already operating in many countries, combining existing Food assistance mechanisms of WFP with educational measures for adults, especially women, and to implement these initiatives into the RWEP:
a. Enabling women to contribute more to food security as a key priority for the FFE, by strengthening their role in society and bolstering their independence through skills and knowledge;

b. Adding to food assistance programs by rewarding workshop and training attendance with additional food supply, distributed through cash-based transfer systems;

c. Rewarding different kinds of workshops like gender sensitivity-training, sexual education, budgeting training, as well as health and nutrition trainings by:

i. Aiming at the inclusion of local NGOs and civil-societies;

ii. Executing workshops by experts who will be selected from related programs of the UN, such as the Rome-based Agencies, as well as governments and local NGOs;

iii. Accomplishing gender sensitivity trainings through a cooperation with UN-INSTRAW and UN-Women;

iv. Encouraging the World Bank Group (WBG) to provide knowledge and skilled teachers on budgeting and entrepreneurship;

v. Inviting WFP and the World Health Organization (WHO) to lead the health and nutrition sector, by creating a curriculum specializing on family nutrition and general health concerns of the region;

f. Enabling women to grow their own household gardens and improve their nutrition and food variety by using their own vegetables and fruit, through education during these workshops;

g. Functioning under the Executive Board of WFP and reports annually about the achieved progress in the operating countries;

h. Working upon request of the country in need of food assistance, and operates according to the financial background of the programme and other funding opportunities, as well as their need for food assistance evaluated by the Executive Board of WFP;

i. Relying on financial resources, such as the annual budget of WFP, local governments, as well as funding of NGOs and private stakeholders, moreover, all Member States capable of are encouraged to provide bilateral funding;

6. Emphasizes the importance of raising awareness within the program about the fundamental role of women in the economy, by:

a. Improving partnerships with local governments in order to recommend policies of education for generations that underline the great advantages that come from a major integration of women in the agricultural economy;

b. Encouraging a gender-specific education directed to women all around the world, especially those who live in underdeveloped countries, that can help them become aware of their agricultural skills, abilities, and importance in the aforementioned field, by sending experts from developed countries in order to teach women the use of modern technologies and production processes;

7. Establishes a Gender Experts Unit within the program, that encourages local NGOs to train women in food innovations and production, by:

a. Ensuring the rights of rural women in acquiring the best practices in agriculture and farming, by participating in capacity building measures and trainings;

b. Assuring that women will benefit and reduce the burden of labor by identifying the lines of action with respect to food innovations;
c. Implementing gender equality policies in research and higher education, by involving universities and research centers to educate women on techniques and methods on food fermentation and storage to ensure food longevity.
The World Food Programme,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/245 (2016), which states the central contribution of women to ending hunger, and resolution 64/140 (2010) on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, as well as Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 7/14 (2008), which stresses the right of food for all,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1, “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (2015), in particular Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture, and SDG 5 to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls,

Further recalling the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) that officially acknowledges the vital role of women to combat food insecurity, as well as the International Labour Organization (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998), which stresses the importance of the elimination of discrimination of women in the workplace,

Noting with concern the specific problems female farmers face when trying to gain access to domestic agricultural markets and the resulting gender productivity gap, for instance the increasing number of women having to take over family farms in rural areas as a result of urbanization, and women’s additional tasks as caregivers, as stated within report 25/57 (2014) to the HRC by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, Olivier de Schutter,

Appreciating the results of the Financial Framework Review (2016), that follows consequently the Integrated Road Map (2016), shifting the focus of the World Food Programme’s (WFP) Policy on Country Strategic Plans towards a more country-based budgeting rather than project- or operation-based budgeting,

Noting with gratitude the ongoing monetary support of more than $85 million in 2017 contributed by the United Nations Central (UN) Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to WFP,

Lauding the work of the Office of the Gender Adviser of the UN for their continuous fight for gender parity within the UN system, and the impact of the WFP Gender Policy 2015-2020 aiming at combatting the causes of the aforementioned gender productivity gap,

Convinced that financial incentives for actors of the private sector play a detrimental role in bridging the gender productivity gap, which is still prevalent all around the world, especially in rural areas, where such incentives are necessary to bridge such gaps, as shown within the World Bank Group study, Equality for Women – Where do we stand on Millennium Development Goal 3 (2008),

Confident that the cutting-edge approaches of the WFP’s Innovation Accelerator can be vital for advancing the agenda of the empowerment of women, particularly the Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA), currently active in four countries in the African continent, which assists rural smallholders to connect with retailers, and facilitates the establishment of long-term contracts between both parties,

Expressing its concern that the current structure of the FtMA inadvertently favors male farmers, failing to close the productivity gap between men and women, and does not include the gender sensitivity necessary to inform governments, communities, and retailers about the potential of female smallholders,

Deeply convinced that including a gender perspective to the FtMA, and eventually the WFP Innovation Accelerator itself, will bridge this gap in the agricultural working force and will propel growth, equal opportunities and ultimately combat food insecurity,
1. **Recommends** the Global Steering Committee of the FtMA to establish a Commissioner for Gender Affairs within its current organizational framework, whose tasks will include:

   a. Raising awareness within the FtMA for the specific problems women face, as mentioned in the report 25/57 (2014) to the HRC of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, when intending to get access to the FtMA framework and the general issues women face when trying to bargain within local markets, especially, but not limited to: not being seen as possessing the same capacities as their male counterparts, entering into contract with retailers, and combining their caregiving and agricultural duties;

   b. Drafting the outline for gender-sensitivity trainings for retailers who form part of the FtMA framework, which will focus on the impact the empowerment of women can have on food supply in their surroundings;

   c. Monitoring whether the retailers partnered with the FtMA take measures to fairly allocate economic resources, such as agricultural machinery and seeds among men and women;

   d. Evaluating, with help of the local FtMA representatives and the data these representatives collect, where monetary incentives for the aforementioned retailers are necessary;

2. **Further recommends** the Global Steering Committee of the FtMA to supply the Commissioner for Gender Affairs with the necessary infrastructure and staff to fulfill its tasks, this being:

   a. An office as part of the consortium of the WFP Innovation Accelerator;

   b. An initial 10 members to this office who will support the Commissioner for Gender Affairs to fulfill his or her tasks, for instance by tracking the amount of female and male farmers within the FtMA, promoting the gender perspective within the FtMA, and monitoring the upholding of working rights for women in line with the principles of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work;

   c. Newly appointed Gender Advisers to the FtMA for every country in which the FtMA is and will be active, trained by the Office of the Gender Adviser of the UN;

3. **Advises** to use the regular annual WFP funding mechanisms of contributions by Member States, international organizations, private individuals, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for these purposes;

4. **Recommends** all Member States to keep up their financial involvement for the WFP and consider increasing previously mentioned contributions;

5. **Invites** the Special Rapporteur on the right to food to monitor the efforts of the FtMA to include the proposed gender perspective and report annually on his or her findings;

6. **Suggests** the board of the WFP Innovation Accelerator to closely monitor the implementation of the gender perspective within the FtMA, to incorporate the experiences and best practices extracted from the FtMA, and the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food, into their already existing as well as future projects;

7. **Encourages** the UN Member States and partners to maintain and work on increasing their efforts towards the empowerment of women to combat food insecurity.
1. *Expresses its readiness* to increase the geographical reach of the FtMA, once the aforementioned gender perspective has been sufficiently implemented, as decided upon by the Commissioner for Gender Affairs.
The World Food Programme,

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations, established in 1945 which guarantees the equal rights of men and women,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,” in which it adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and targets,

Specifically highlighting SDG 2 “Zero Hunger,” SDG 4 “Quality Education,” and SDG 5 “Gender Equality,”

Bearing in mind the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action that acknowledges women’s vital role in ensuring food security, and calling for the elimination of discrimination against women in food allocation,

Guided by the WFP Gender Policy 2015-2020, that reaffirms the vital role of not only women but also men in the design and implementation of gender-transformative programs and policies,

Guided by the WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021), that aligns the World Food Programme (WFP) with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, focusing on ending hunger and contributing to revitalized global partnerships to implement the SDGs,

Deeply conscious of importance of the General Assembly resolution 70/154 of March 2016 on the “Right to Food,” that ensures full and equal realization of women’s right to food by empowering women and strengthening their role in decision-making, as well as Human Rights Council report 22/50 of December 2012 on Women’s rights and the right to food, that discuss the various forms of discrimination women face regarding the right to food,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/245 of February 2017 entitled “Agriculture development, food security and nutrition,” which reiterates the essential contributions of women to combat world hunger and underlines the situation of women in rural areas, General Assembly resolution 70/132 of February 2016 on “Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas,” which gives attention to the fundamental role of women smallholder farmers in achieving food security,

Reiterating General Assembly resolution 70/219 of February 2016 on “Women in Development,” calling for the strengthening of global efforts to empower women in the field of food assistance, by involving them in food-distribution committees and including them in the development of social economies and communities,

Welcoming the promotion of integrating women into the workforce, especially in the agricultural sector, as the economy can expand when women are enabled to contribute,

Declaring that women are too often overworked, underpaid, and are statistically less likely to own land,

Noting with concern that in 2010 the Gender and Land Rights Database of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations (UN) only 20% of land owners were women, due to a range of legal and cultural constraints in land inheritance and ownership,

Emphasizing that women tend to have less access to formal financial institutions and saving mechanisms, while 55% of men report having an account at a formal financial institution, only 47% of women worldwide do, according to the World Bank Index,
Recalling the General Assembly resolution 67/202 of February 2013 on “Entrepreneurship for development,” aimed to create enabling environments that help entrepreneurs develop and extend their activities along with empowering women,

Recalling the report of the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) on rural women entrepreneurship, that intensifies women sustainability by enhancing their skills and capabilities in financial, technical, and managerial aspects,

Affirming the importance of women in achieving food security through intensifying their skills and capabilities in the decision-making spheres, and giving women equal opportunities in the workplace to combat food insecurity,

Declaring with great appreciation the contributions made by WFP through collaboration with Oxfam, in the R4 initiative that describes the inequalities of agricultural capital security, acknowledges that women make up to 60% of smallholders, while recognizing that their capacity is limited by the financial risks involved with entering the food production industry,

Recalling UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2008/18 of July 2008, entitled “Promoting full employment and decent work for all,” for the creation of greater and equal work opportunities for men and women, conventions concerning the employment rights of women, to promote and protect the rights of women workers,

Emphasizing the strong connection between social insecurities, gender-based discrimination, and the unavailability for women to provide sufficient nourishment for their families to end hunger,

1. Reminds Member States that the lack of gender equality and women’s empowerment means that women and girls are often more vulnerable in humanitarian situations, progress is hindered in all areas of sustainable development, since it affects all aspects of development and human well-being;

2. Calls upon Member States to integrate gender equality and women’s empowerment frameworks into all of their work and activities, as encouraged in the WFP Gender Policy 2015-2020 and the WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021);

3. Solemnly affirms that women have a crucial role to play in defeating hunger and that mothers, farmers, teachers, and entrepreneurs are key to building a future free of malnutrition, since there is a relationship between gender-based discrimination and the different channels through which households and individuals access food;

4. Considers that participating fully in agricultural business and economic life, specifically related to agriculture, can accelerate women and girl’s empowerment, and is essential to bring the number of hungry people in the world down by 100-150 million people;

5. Affirms the need for Member States to assist women in combating food insecurity through business opportunities in the agricultural sector by means that include, but are not limited to:

   a. Reducing or removing policy barriers women face in their empowerment, as well as incorporating the WFP Gender Policy 2015-2020 into national policies, by:

      i. Recalling objective 2 of the WFP Gender Policy 2015-2020, which states the importance of providing equal property ownership and inheritance rights for men and women;

      ii. Calling upon Member States to address policies with the aim of reducing barriers that restrict women to access resources, because if women had the same access to productive resources as men, they could increase yields on their farms by 20-30% which will, in turn, reduce the number of hungry people in the world by 12-17%, as stated in the report, Gender Equality and Food Security: Women’s Empowerment as a Tool against Hunger, of FAO and the Asian Development Bank;

      iii. Encouraging Member States to include the Education 2030: Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (2015) in their national policy, especially regarding the statement that “education is the most powerful...
means of achieving gender equality, of enabling girls and women to fully participate socially
and politically, and of empowering them economically,” in order to establish knowledge on
healthy nutrition to build the capacity of women to progress in food management and
entrepreneurship in the agricultural and food sector;
iv. Focusing on the misappropriation of resources and funding that can lead to weaker female
empowerment, while increasing extreme gender inequalities in the realm of agriculture;

b. Providing economic resources to women smallholder farmers in the agricultural sector, including, but
not limited to:
i. The supply and usage of microfinance instruments to empower women to allow them to gain
access to financial resources by collaborating and expanding on the work of programs such as
the Hunger Project’s Microfinance Program, and microfinance instruments by the World
Bank, in order to:
1. Invest in technologies that promote measures to stabilize food security for families
and local communities, to increase agricultural productivity and to free up capacities;
2. Encourage entrepreneurial activities that develop financial resources of small income
families;
3. Promote increased open market engagement by regional and international businesses
for economic sustainability, by benchmarking and illustrating profitability
opportunities in the long run;
i. Promoting Purchase for Progress (P4P), which focuses on promoting female smallholder
farmers’ entrepreneurship, as well as addressing long-term nutrition needs, and that will ease
their access to markets;


c. Creating entrepreneurship and work opportunities for women in the agricultural sector, through:
i. Having the WFP Innovation Accelerator support more women through financial support,
access to a network of experts, and a global field reach, which will allow them to identify,
nurture, and scale bold solutions to hunger globally;
i. Promoting UNIDO’s Rural and Women Entrepreneurship (RWE) Development Programme,
that includes:
1. Elements of a “bottom-up growth strategy” to enable women to participate in the
mainstream economy, in order for women to become entrepreneurs in the
agricultural sector to alleviate hunger;
2. Specific methodologies and manuals for women entrepreneurship development, such
as a training program for women entrepreneurs in food processing, that emphasizes
confidence building for managing their own assets;
3. Building the capabilities and skills of women in the entrepreneurial sector and to
increase their knowledge, regarding subjects related to food security, by
collaborating with the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of
Women (UN-Women), the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and the Commission on
the Status of Women in education;
4. The development of the policy advocacy, and the collective self-help capacities of
rural and women entrepreneurs to allow them to carry out partnerships to reduce
inequalities;
ii. Further focusing on helping women farmers to receive the appropriate information,
investment, and support, to have the capacity to produce and sell marketable surplus for
increased incomes, while connecting them to markets, through programs like the Farm to
Market Alliance;
iv. Promoting the Accelerating Progress toward the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women
(RWEE) program from UN-Women, FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural
Development (IFAD), and WFP, which aims at increasing the productive potential of women
smallholder farmers through their access to and control over productive resources and
services critical to food security and nutrition;
v. Continuing to utilize risk reduction services, such as the R4 initiative, to incentivize smallholder farmers to begin food production through humanitarian aid for the initial stages of the project, partnerships with Oxfam, and suggests a partnership with FAO to install a regional farming insurance system that, will gradually form by strong domestic alliances through active citizens;

vi. Establishing a partnership, based on the WFP Corporate Partnership Strategy (2014-2017), between WFP, FAO and the International Labour Organization (ILO) to promote The Sustainable Enterprise Programme: Strategic Framework, with the aim of allowing women to access markets, which will give women opportunities for economic independence to accelerate progress towards Zero Hunger, and that will:
1. Create an enabling environment for sustainable enterprises and employment, to encourage investment and entrepreneurship to women;
2. Encourage entrepreneurship and business development, that address the role of the entrepreneur and the creation of businesses that lead to more and better jobs, especially for women and young people, using the example of the Empowering Woman Farmers with Agricultural Business Management Training (EMWOFA);

vii. Putting forward sustainable and responsible workplaces, concentrating on conditions of work and the quality of the working environment, this would allow for women to have an easier access to food for the table, as they will have job security and, with it, they can purchase more nutritious foods to help eliminate hunger;

d. Addressing social issues by recommending all willing Member States to implement secure fair distribution, and allowing all individuals to purchase the necessary food by:

i. Encouraging women to actively fight against discrimination at workplaces, educational institutions, or other places, in relation to inaccessibility of financial means, by establishing campaigns in close cooperation with local non-governmental organizations (NGOs);

ii. Establishing social security programs at a national level, such as maternity protection, adequate medical attention for mother-and-child-practice, and adequate physical work encumbrances, and encourage Member States to have their national businesses abide by such social security programs, so that all genders can work and secure essential resources according to their physical endowments, as defined in the WFP Gender Policy 2015-2020;

6. Invites Member States to achieve food security by empowering women through business opportunities in the agricultural sector.
The World Food Programme,

Encouraged by General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015), “Transforming our World: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (2030 Agenda), in particular Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2, which focuses on ending hunger and achieving food security, and SDG 5, which promotes the empowerment of women,

Acknowledging the creation of the World Food Programme (WFP) Innovation Accelerator (2017) program, which has reached approximately 144,000 individuals globally in terms of food aid and assistance,

Recognizing the efforts of the United Nations (UN) Evaluation Group (UNEG), the interagency network bringing together the evaluation units of the UN System,

Drawing attention to the importance of the joint venture between the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN and the Food Agricultural Development (FAD) in the creation of multiple opportunities of employment for women in the food, farming, and agricultural sector,

Emphasizing WFP’s publication on South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Food Security and Nutrition (2015), which forms partnerships between developed and developing countries to promote progress towards SDG 2, promoting zero hunger,

Noting the Evaluation Quality Assurance System (EQUAS) (2016) put forth by WFP, that provides a transparent quality assurance reports highlighting facts, forecasts, and presenting data related to the conditions in the agriculture industry,

Expressing appreciation for the Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD), which aims to promote social justice through food sustainability, promoting justice through long-term and sustainable development regarding food security, women’s rights, and peacebuilding, specifically throughout the African continent,

1. Recommends the creation of opportunities and inclusive initiatives, like programs and internships, for women to gain employment in sustainable farming practices at a regional discretion in the food and agricultural industry, through multilateral partnerships with state governments and the Global Forum on Agricultural Research to uphold the Gender in Agriculture Partnership (GAP) initiative, along with the private sector;

2. Encourages the creation of opportunities that promote career and growth of women in the food and agriculture field, with the help of the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education to be assessed by EQUAS, to provide opportunities in fields such as, but not limited to:
   a. Subsistence (everyday) and commercial farming;
   b. Fish, dairy, poultry, and meat farming;
   c. On-farm renewable energy;
   d. Pest and weed management;
   e. Pastured livestock and rotational grazing;

3. Expresses its hope in the active collaboration of WFP with the joint venture initiative between the FAO and the FAD, by further extending an invitation of participation to all other Member States and organizations, instead of being constricted to their current seven, in order to be more accessible in the creation of:
a. Farming internships;

b. Jobs for women at a regional to a national level;

4. Further invites ACORD to collaborate with WFP in creating an organizational objective for the development of women in the food sector:

a. Initiating a volunteer program within the agency where women from developing nations enter areas of insecurity and assist vulnerable women in regard to, but not limited to:

i. Allow a support system, which helps to register land, educate on topics of entitlement and land ownership policies;

ii. Provide counseling opportunities on the state’s requirements of the allocation of agricultural resources, referencing the implementation of the *Maputo Declaration* (2003);

iii. Host public speaking events for female-led civil societies, aiming to unify and encourage them to be active in agriculture in their community;

iv. Develop global communication between volunteers and women in need, as participants will include people from all over the world;

b. This project will be accomplished through a shared contribution of ACORD and WFP’s funding, in order to reach the initiative’s goals;

5. Urges the addition of a data-driven process that accumulates statistics, figures, and numerical data, funded through and monitored by EQUAS, that works towards helping women in achieving a better understanding of initiatives of WFP, through means such as, but not limited to:

a. Measuring the before and after performance ratio of women in the agricultural industry through the adoption of initiatives proposed in this paper;

b. Setting realistic goals, rewards, and incentives for women involved in these programs, in order to sustainably achieve the eradication of hunger;

c. Creating a standardized system of evaluation within various agricultural demographics, so women are made aware of the differences within various sectors of the agricultural industry;

6. Encourages WFP to reach out to regional leaders, such as local representatives, in order to establish a relationship between various stakeholders like civil societies and state actors, who will analyze farming and agricultural conditions on a more territorial basis, in order to acquire a better understanding of the agricultural sector, by:

a. Analyzing quantitative data collection through UNEG frameworks on the status of women, provided with incentives in terms of productivity and sustainability, through:

i. Data that will be made available to potential donors and partners as evidence for effective actions;

b. Allowing civil societies to have direct interaction with their regional leaders while allowing WFP to observe productivity and generate patterns and future forecasts;

c. Creating opportunities for cooperation and communication between regional leaders and leading women in civil societies, thus allowing the gender gap in positions of power to decrease;

7. Establishes a conference “Convention of Food Innovation for Women” (CFIW) where Member States and partners can convene annually to assess the latest global innovations with regards to agriculture and food security, as well as monitor the progress of initiatives created within this resolution:
107  a. The conference will cover a range of topics including, but not limited to:
108
110  i. Latest global innovations with regards to agriculture and food security;
111  ii. The position of women and women actors in the food industry;
112  iii. Data publication from participating Member States and organizations pertaining to areas most
affected by gender discrimination in regard to food insecurity;
114  iv. Outputs and outcomes of initiatives such as the WFP Innovation Accelerator and EQUAS
opportunities;
116
117  8. Encourages all able Member States to contribute assistance in funds to support the CFIW:
118
120  a. Places Spain as the initial host state, which will rotate annually per the largest contributors towards the
CFIW, and Oxfam International as a key partner with regards to coordination of the conference and all
able states attending;
122  b. Recognizes the initial financial support pledged by Australia and Canada in order to build the
foundation of the conference;
124  c. Denmark, Hungary, and Spain will contribute grants and scholarships targeted specifically at women
victims who lack entrepreneurship opportunities;
128  d. Request the assistance of ECOSOC in order to assist with program funding;
130  e. As per the Danish Organisation Strategy (2017), the Kingdom of Denmark will support the growth of
the WFP Innovation Accelerator by facilitating the following actions:
133  i. Establishing grants for female entrepreneurs;
135  ii. Recommends the inclusion of women in specific agriculture programs within the WFP
Innovation Accelerator;
137
138  9. Encourages all Member States to remain actively seized in the matter.
The World Food Programme,

Calling attention to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), which declares that everyone has the right to food and everyone is entitled to the realization of economic, social, and cultural rights imperative to personal development,

Recalling the Security Council resolution 2242 (2015) “On Women and Peace and Security,” which emphasizes the importance of women of gender equality, and women empowerment in building women’s engagement in all levels of decision-making spheres,

Bearing in mind the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of 1995 and the United Nations (UN) System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equity and Empowerment of Women of 2012, by fully acknowledging that women have considerable potential to make agriculture a key driver for the development of Member States,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/283 of 2015 on “The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030” in preventing and managing post-disaster food supply,

Alarmed by the UN Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women’s (UN-Women) statement that women represent an average of 43% of the agricultural labor force in developing countries, and face several constraints that reduce their productivity and access to productive resources, tools, and services, thus preventing them from having considerable potential to make agriculture a key driver for food security,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 72/148 of 2017 on “Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas,” which implements laws to ensure full and equal rights of women in owning and leasing land, including equal rights in economic and productive resources, and ownership and control over land,

Further reaffirming General Assembly resolution 72/148 on “Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas,” which gives importance of microfinancing mechanisms and cash-based transfers to increase the capabilities of rural women in less developed countries and the labor market, due to their inadequate access to food,

Highlights the transition from food aid to food assistance in order to better reflect the WFP Strategic Plan 2017-2021, which focuses on integrating food assistance capacities and programmes, through the participation and investments of governments, other UN agencies, the private sector, and civil society, with the objective to facilitate the transition from food aid to food assistance and thus increasing the autonomy and control of women over agricultural sector,

Emphasizing the World Food Programme (WFP) School Meals Programme, that can directly provide school meals to children, build the capacity of a government through infrastructure, and can be linked to local smallholder farm production, combining nutritional and educational benefits with a positive impact on local economies, and that has directly provided school meals to 16.4 million children in 60 countries,

Emphasizing WFP’s Cash-Based Transfers (CBT), which uses innovative electronic platforms to encourage local female producers to boost their production of food in their communities by creating more commercial opportunities, thus accelerating the progress towards zero hunger,

Fully aware that women generally tend to sacrifice their meals to feed their children instead, and according to WFP half of all mothers in developing countries are anemic, causing 110,000 deaths during childbirth each year,

Noting that raising awareness of the essential role women play in combatting food insecurity is vital to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2, “Zero Hunger” and SDG 5, “Gender Equality”,

Highlights the transition from food aid to food assistance in order to better reflect the WFP Strategic Plan 2017-2021, which focuses on integrating food assistance capacities and programmes, through the participation and investments of governments, other UN agencies, the private sector, and civil society, with the objective to facilitate the transition from food aid to food assistance and thus increasing the autonomy and control of women over agricultural sector,
1. **Supports** the creation of a Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP), which works with pregnant mothers or mothers with more than two children under the age of 10, for the purpose of preventing the negative effects of malnutrition, NAP seeks to:

   a. Give foodstuff at a discounted or complementary price to eligible women in conjunction with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN (FAO);

   b. Encourages enhanced funding from the International Development Association from the World Bank, non-governmental organizations (NGO), donations, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;

   c. Include all voluntary Member States willing to implement this program;

   d. Work with UN-Women's Humanitarian Action to help find women that need the assistance and protection the program would provide;

   e. Include a partnership with the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and existing domestic organizations;

2. **Promotes** women’s access to land property ownership and supports the development of gender-responsive land policies through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), which its two main approaches are the integration of gender equality in interventions, and dialogue with partners on gender sensitive issues, by:

   a. Supporting women’s organizations for rural women to participate in the creation of land policies, through increasing the interactions and dialogues between female community leaders and government representatives;

   b. Advocating the representation of women in institutions responsible for distributing land rights, by encouraging the private and public institutions to give equal opportunities in the workplace and allow them to participate more in the decision-making process;

   c. Supporting local analysis or statistics on the effects of current legislation on land, divorce, and inheritance towards women’s access to land;

3. **Fully supports and recommends** the implementation of professional and technical training programs for women in developing nations, similar to the Skills Development initiative by the World Bank, which will increase food-producing capabilities by having:

   a. Willing and interested Member States participate in these programs;

   b. Programs focusing on up-to-date agricultural practices, information on raising livestock, crisis management, and finance practices;

   c. Programs which not only measure and assess skills, but aid in improving or developing skills for women in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and rural areas;

   d. Rural and women in LDCs learn computer and technological skills;

   e. The General Assembly and interested Member States assist in funding these programs by collaborating and cooperating between and among all stakeholders;

   f. Programs run on a continual basis and having them adhere to a minimum standard, and will be overseen by relevant authorities;

4. **Reminds** Member States that areas in post-conflict and disaster areas suffer greatly from food supply disruption, and that women in these areas are disproportionately affected by these incidents, and therefore:
a. Insist Member States uphold their responsibility to reduce disaster risk and ensure proper assistance for women, men, and children, to re-establish a secure food supply under the Sendai Framework;

b. Urges Member States to improve agricultural, fishery, and water way infrastructure to promote sturdy infrastructure against disaster;

5. **Emphasizes** that food security is having adequate and sustainable access to food by building resources and capacities of women through improving gender mainstreaming, by:

a. Giving access to women in the decision-making process, and building capacities, by imposing productive activities, such as training plans, by facilitating gender mainstreaming in development through women’s equal land rights;

b. Appointing gender and development correspondents in national regions with the help of courts, local councils, and ministries;

c. Monitoring the implementation of the building of the resources and capacities of women, to broaden women’s economic opportunities and leave them less vulnerable to hunger and poverty;

d. Promoting women’s access to education and literacy courses to be able to read, write, and understand, to have access to justice and request law enforcement;

6. **Encourages** all willing Member States to incorporate into their domestic policies the WFP School Meals Programme;

7. **Promotes** gender equality by reinforcing the technical and organizational capacities of women and women’s organizations, through increasing advocacy of female participation in governance and improved integration of gender in policies to fight poverty;

8. **Encourages** the expansion and implementation of CBT, which helps women in LDCs to overcome economic hardship, with the use of:

a. Innovative electronic platforms, such as smart cards, mobile money, e-vouchers, and cash cards, enabled by voluntary funding from Member States, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and NGOs;

b. Cash card distribution expansion and monthly deposits to each household, determined by their financial standing, that will also allow for the expansion of WFP distribution teams, from refugee camps to a broader audience;

c. An electronic aid money to allow for corrupt-free transactions through civil society and NGOs, in collaboration with FAO, which will also improve women’s sustainability and resilience;

9. **Calls upon** all Member States to implement and create solidarity campaigns, such as the HeForShe commitment, that focus on encouraging both men and boys as agents of change and to take action against negative inequalities faced by women and girls, such as their vulnerability to food insecurity, and to raise awareness about the fundamental role of women in the reduction of hunger and their importance in society;

10. **Recommends** the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to designate 14 May as the International Day of Women for Food Security, and further invites all Member States, organizations of the UN system, other international and regional organizations, and civil society, including NGOs, to observe the International Day of Women for Food Security, in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, in order to raise awareness of the essential role women play in alleviating hunger worldwide.