

25 - 29 MARCH 2018

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



Conference B

World Food Programme (WFP)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

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

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Торіс	Vote
WFP/1/1	Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger	Adopted without a vote
WFP/1/2	Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger	Adopted without a vote
WFP/1/3	Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger	Adopted without a vote
WFP/1/4	Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger	18 votes in favor, 3 votes against, 5 abstentions
WFP/1/5	Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger	21 votes in favor, 3 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 27 Member States.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of III, II, I, beginning discussion on the topic of "Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger." By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of six proposals covering a wide range of subtopics including agricultural education, multilateral partnerships, funding opportunities, and project proposals on possibilities to use technology in combating hunger. The debate evolved from introducing and sharing individual ideas to discussing specific aspects of agreed proposals. Throughout the sessions, the atmosphere was productive and cooperative while the tone remained respectful and diplomatic.

On Wednesday, five draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, three of which had amendments. The committee adopted five resolutions following voting procedure, three of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including mobile agricultural applications, the research of biotechnologies, public-private partnerships, agricultural education, indoor farming initiatives, and considerations for technology funding. The groups worked diligently over the conference to refine and expand upon their proposals while also collaborating closely with each other and creating a friendly, inclusive, and inspiring environment. Due to their hard work, they were able to begin discussing the second topic on the agenda and deliver excellent speeches to the committee.



Committee: World Food Programme

Topic: Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger

1 The World Food Programme, 2 3 Desiring to fulfill Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 to end world hunger, 4 5 Reaffirming of the goals of the WFP Strategic Plan (2017-2021) to educate and emphasize the role of technology to 6 end world hunger, 7 8 Recalling the encouragement in General Assembly resolution 66/227 (2011) on "International cooperation on 9 humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development" for Member States to develop 10 information and telecommunication technologies for emergency preparedness and disaster response, 11 12 Noting with appreciation the effectiveness of Country Strategic Plans to address regional issues, 13 14 Reiterating the objectives of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Policy (2015), which aim to encourage the 15 exchange of knowledge, resources and collaborative action between developing countries, 16 17 Emphasizing the importance of empowering farmers through education and access to information in order to 18 sustainably end world hunger, 19 20 *Understanding* the value of quality communication networks to disseminate information, 21 22 Noting with gratitude the role of the World Food Programme's (WFP) Office of Evaluation to hold WFP 23 accountable by measuring performance and demonstrating results of initiatives, 24 25 Noting with approval the work of the WFP's Innovation Accelerator, contracting some of the top technology experts 26 to design and expedite projects to assist the WFP in eradicating food insecurity, 27 28 Appreciating the role of the Vulnerability and Analysis Mapping (VAM) system to display and spread information 29 to Member States regarding food security statistics, 30 31 Respecting the quality of the organizational structures of the educational programs of the Australian Centre for 32 International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), which conducts locally-driven educational seminars, projects, and 33 events for development and future planning in rural communities, collaborating with experts from in-country 34 partners, 35 36 Acknowledging the positive effects of WeFarm, a SMS-messaging system with over six-hundred thousand users 37 created by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and currently implemented in Kenya and Ethiopia, to allow farmers 38 to text agricultural questions and receive crowdsourced answers from farmers in their region, 39 40 Expressing appreciation for the success of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and World Health 41 Organization's (WHO) Secure Digital (SD) cards, piloted in Laos to take advantage of the 2.53 billion existing 42 smartphone owners by spreading pre-downloaded educational information on proper health practices to both the 43 literate and illiterate using videos and animations,

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1. Expresses its readiness to work with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to work together on the application WeFarm:

2. *Requests* an expansion of the WeFarm application to extend its use to developing countries facilitated by collaboration with the:

 Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in order to work with WFP developers on the expansion of the application;

b. WFP Innovation Accelerator to employ its technology development experts to:

i. Increase the capacity of the WeFarm application for accessibility in additional regions;

 ii. Incorporate additional features like weekly informational texts using satellite-based data on risks related to weather, climate, and other potential hazards to supply relevant agricultural information for food producers;

iii. Develop a WeFarm database to collect and analyze the questions' frequency in specific locations and success rates of solutions;

3. Recommends that this expansion includes the addition of features such as, but not limited to:

a. Current market prices to provide farmers without internet access with knowledge that will improve their bargaining power in larger markets, and subsequently increase their profit margins as well as;

i. Weather reports;

ii. New resources available in the region such as non-governmental organization (NGO) services, government programs, and new technology;

iii. How to access these new resources;iv. What to do during crises for emergency preparedness;

b. Incorporating a WeFarm regional-based hotline in Member States' Country Strategic Plan that allows for individuals without access to mobile phones to call this number with:

i. Questions about agricultural issues they are experiencing;

ii. Questions about obtaining local resources, particularly technology;iii. Information otherwise distributed through weekly informational texts;

c. Creating a rating system to:

i. Evaluate the solution's effectiveness;

ii. Determine methods of best practice;iii. Supplying automatic answers to common issues that have already had successful solutions provided in past;

4. *Supports* the employment of this application's database to update the VAM system with regional information, using the commonly reported problems and feedback on solutions to determine best practices, and match Member States with similar problems to facilitate solution sharing;

 5. *Recommends* Member States to promote this expanded WeFarm application as a part of their Country Strategic Plan through efforts such as, but not limited to, posters, information sessions, and pamphlets;

 6. Further encourages Member States to include seminars within their Country Strategic Plans structured under the ACIAR's educational model to promote WeFarm use within communities by utilizing volunteers or employees to inform others of the application and its uses, and how to access the VAM system for determining best practices in regions with similar issues;

7. *Requests* an assessment to be done by the WFP's Office of Evaluation in 2021 to look at the success of the WeFarm application, measuring results based on the amount of successful solutions implemented, updates to the VAM system, as well as providing suggestions for future improvements;

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- 8. *Encourages* the collaboration of the WFP with UNICEF and WHO in individual-level information sharing through the distribution practices of SD cards, to be implemented on a smaller community-by-community scale first in developing countries to determine whether or not packaging instructions are adequate for understanding, to be expanded into mass production if proven successful;
- 9. *Designates* WFP Country Offices to generate content for these SD cards regarding topics including technical maintenance, soil use, and crop diversification, with the intent of educating and empowering their local farmers who own mobile smartphones but have limited access to internet;
- 10. *Further invites* saving on personnel assignments by distributing these SD cards with the food assistance for assets initiative efforts in vulnerable populations with the highest illiteracy rates such as Burkina Faso and Niger.



Committee: World Food Programme

Topic: Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger

The World Food Programme,

Considering United Nation (UN) Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 which focuses on ending hunger and ensuring access to all people of safe, nutritious, and sufficient food all year round by 2030,

Underlining the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda's* (2015) emphasis on the crucial role that technology plays in food security, food availability, and nutrition,

Highlighting ECOSOC resolution 2011/17 on "Science and Technology for Development", which emphasizes the importance of science and technology in creating lasting solutions to struggling rural economies and food insecure communities,

Recognizing the World Food Programme's (WFP) need to develop a stronger global partnership framework with more unified multilateral relations with other organizations, both governmental and non-governmental,

Emphasizing the need for the WFP to focus on transparency and accountability in the distribution of food aid and participation in humanitarian projects in order to gain the trust of donors and increase the organization's capacity to fund future projects,

Fully aware of the necessity to increase farmer morale through confidence in the local market by providing a constant consumer base and demand for their products,

Taking into consideration the need for equal distribution of WFP's resources and initiatives, particularly the need for the systemization of the organization's financial and material resources and assets,

Having studied the World Food Programme Strategic Plan (2017-2021), which acknowledges that humanitarian aid is increasingly difficult to distribute as climate change, regional conflict, and inequality exacerbate humanitarian crises,

Recalling the success of the Last Mile Mobile Solutions (LMMS) platform in mitigating the needs of immigrants in the Bajid Kandala Camp of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq through the use of a system that tracks organizational assets and donations, budgets, and food and humanitarian aid,

Taking into account electronic cards, or e-cards, which are similar to debit cards, provided by humanitarian organizations to those experiencing food insecurity and used to purchase goods from participating retailers and markets, which improve dietary diversity and have had massive success in Turkey, Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq, injecting over \$1 billion into their respective local economies since the period of implementation,

Fully aware of the necessity to increase farmer morale through confidence in the local market by providing a constant consumer base and demand for their products via the injection of increased capital in the local markets through the implementation and use of e-cards,

1. *Expresses its commitment* to expanding the implementation of programs that incorporate science, technology, and innovation, as mentioned in the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda*;

2. *Suggests* the implementation of the LMMS Platform, a program which enables multiple organizations to track resources and humanitarian aid distributed in a single, multi-faceted platform, to be implemented in all areas, present and future, in which WFP humanitarian and food assistance projects are implemented and would allow for:

- d. Transparency between the WFP and other organizations through the dissemination of the *Post Distribution Monitor Report* (PDMR) which will:
 - i. Be published on an annual basis as opposed to WFP's current policy in which reports are only published after crises or as needed;
 - ii. Be enhanced through the inclusion of data collected by the LMMS tracking system, which will show to which region monetary donations to the organization are applied, thus increasing donor confidence;
- 3. *Recommends* the expansion of the use of e-cards beyond states in which the system has been implemented to states in which WFP food assistance is given, which will increase the confidence of local populations in the state of food security;
- 4. *Proposes* that the funding for this initiative be sourced by voluntary donations from Member States and humanitarian NGOs, as well as other sources including but not limited to:
 - a. The Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;
 - b. The European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations;
 - c. The Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries;

d. Funding by Regional Development banks such as the African Development Bank and Asian Development Bank, as these banks are based in regions where food assistance is most needed according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.



Committee: World Food Programme

Topic: Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat World Hunger

1 The World Food Programme, 2

Acknowledging the growing prevalence of hunger and malnourishment in the world and the increasing need to upholding Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2 and 9,

Emphasizing the importance of enhancing access to technology and innovation, especially in developing Member States, as proposed by the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (1966),

Recognizing the importance of partnerships with agricultural universities and other private institutions to inform farmers on sustainable farming structures as a key aspect to battling hunger,

Affirming the importance of the utilization of scientists educated in modern cultivation practices to help spur domestic agricultural production and shape future policy,

Noting with approval the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Project (WAAPP), which works in conjunction with the Republic of Japan and African universities to provide opportunities for agricultural education for rural farmers in modern cultivation techniques,

Seeking greater partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), other international organizations, and private companies in order to stimulate funding for agricultural education due to the fact that as the population grows the budget must too increase proportionally,

Noting with approval the Tokyo International Conference of African Development (TICAD) and its mission to stimulate sustainable multilateral partnerships and promote education on effective international development policy for global agricultural leaders,

Commending the Innovation Accelerator for providing support for rural farmers in distress, supplying schools in Africa with nutritious meals and information about healthier eating techniques, and making substantial impact to achieve SDG 2 by investing over \$100,000 to innovation accelerator companies,

 Promotes learning opportunities regarding modern cultivation technologies through the expansion of the WAAPP and partnerships with local universities by developing partnerships with universities such as Chinhoyi University School of Agricultural Sciences and Technology in Zimbabwe, which will serve as a pilot institution to:

a. Provide a framework for further implementation;

b. Offer education on new technologies;

c. Support rural farmers worldwide as farmers endeavor towards self-sufficiency and sustainable production means;

d. Inviting evaluation of the successes of the WAAPP when it is expanded beyond the Member States of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and into other African Member States and similarly affected developing nations;

2. *Invites* Member States to develop their Ministries of Agriculture to shape future agricultural policy and projects to combat food insecurities by:

- a. Expanding employment practices that will select highly educated scientists and agriculturists best suited to work in the ministries and on-site locations:
- b. Providing scientists and agriculturalists the ability to travel and collect knowledge in a variety of agricultural ecosystems in order to increase their understanding of best cultivation practices;
- 3. *Further Invites* governments of all Member States, international organizations, private ventures, and leaders in science, technology, and engineering to collaborate and share best practices with Member States on the utilization of technology and innovation for food security in rural and agricultural development by means of regional summit using TICAD as a regional mode, that:
 - a. Promotes the open transfer of information and technology from developed to developing Member States, for education on sustainable agricultural mechanisms to improve food production in rural regions dependent on subsistence farming;
 - b. Rotates among regions Africa, Southeast Asia, South America, Europe and North America biennially;
- 4. *Designates* the implementation of monthly seminars in rural and urban areas to promote the sharing and exchange of farming ideas and techniques between farmers and local agriculturalists to take place in their local communities;
- 5. *Expresses* its appreciation for exchange training programs between universities and learning institutions with domestic governments to send entrepreneurs and agricultural farmers in developing nations to apprenticeships, scholarships, and training programs in centers such as the Innovation Accelerator, where individuals would nominate members of their own communities for such opportunities:
 - a. Partnering with think tanks and institutions that work with universities and other NGOs that foster the exchange training programs which are funded by the Innovation Accelerator;
 - b. Developing partnerships with companies funded by the Innovation Accelerator focuses on multiple SDGs, such as SDG 2, 9 and 17, having a wide range of partnerships entails that more people will benefit from funding IA, therefore the WFP calls upon Member States to fund these initiatives;
- 6. Encourages financial management education regarding newfound technology in rural and urban areas in conjunction with the Food and Agricultural Organization, including micro-financing education in budget creation and loan management for entrepreneurs and small-holder farmers looking to expand technological cultivation and increased yield ability while:
 - a. Working in partnership with local community associations, providing vulnerable regions with local business ventures and opportunities;
 - b. Building and facilitating networks to offer ongoing mentoring opportunities for financial management for small farmers engaged in hunger alleviation enterprises.



Committee: The World Food Programme

Topic: Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Combat Hunger

The World Food Programme,

Reaffirming the World Food Programme's (WFP) commitment to "end hunger, achieve food security and improved security by 2030,"

Emphasizing the importance of enhancing access to technology and innovation, especially in less developed Member States through the continuous improvement methods of production, as proposed by the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (1966),

Commending corporations, such as Ukulima Tech, which partner with local farmers in Africa to develop vertical farms using materials readily available,

Noting with satisfaction the innovative technique of polymer farming, which enables farmers to grow food on polymer fibers instead of soil,

Acknowledging the effectiveness of public-private partnerships (PPP) in funding processes, which tend to facilitate greater transparency regarding donations, and guarantee higher amounts of contributions as the primary shareholders and executive members of such enterprises have greater involvement in the process,

Encouraging the increase of PPPs in the areas of research such as the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA), a public corporation that fosters research and cooperation from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or private companies in the area of research of resilient crops to further education in the agricultural sector,

Resolving that farmers are in need of improved methods of farming in events of natural disaster or drastic climate change as highlighted in the General Assembly resolution 72/132 on "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development" (2017),

Fully aware of the importance of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 to promote sustainable agriculture through cost-effective measures such as indoor farming in a controlled environment that utilizes minimal water and eradicates the need for pesticides,

 Stressing the importance of increasing sustainable agricultural development to further food security systems and nutrition on an international scale as outlined under the General Assembly resolution 72/238 on "Agriculture Development, Food Security and Nutrition" (2017) and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (2015) while conserving resources through centers such as the Centre of Excellence Against Hunger which works internationally in areas such as social protection, home-grown school feeding, and food and nutrition security,

Expressing concern of the current pace of the implementation of SDG 2, particularly related to ending hunger and malnutrition and seeking the implementation of programs surrounding the topics of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), resilient crops, and research within countries respective wishes,

Deeply saddened by the lack of transparency in government and private sector funding for the purpose of food-related relief either through the WFP or through direct funding methods,

Recalling the importance of local microfinance organizations such as the Microcredit Summit Campaign and the Rotating Savings and Credit Associations or ROSCAs initiative in Nairobi, Kenya, as well as microfinance networks

and associations such as the Partnership for Responsible Financial Inclusion and the Africa Microfinance Network (AFMIN) in supporting small farmers to increase production,

Supporting the implementation of the WFP innovative projects as they develop more comprehensive communication and connection with the local community,

Hoping that economically developed countries take initiative to provide funding to hunger-stricken countries through the WFP's initiatives and programs,

Cognizant of the obstacles of technical costs in regards to cost-effective innovation that in turn financially limit access to technology and agricultural education and the difficulties they pose to rural farmers in developing Member States.

Recognizing that mobile phones are smart investments but currently financially unreachable to some small-scale farmers in less developed countries,

Desiring the universal implementation of effective transportation and distribution of food in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to eliminate food waste through the efficiency of silo storage and cold-chain transportation systems to prevent rot and spoil of food in transit and in holding systems,

Highlighting the General Assembly resolution 72/132 on "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development" (2017) and increasing challenges to Member States and to the UN humanitarian response capacity to deal with the consequences of natural disasters,

Bearing in mind the development of growing public transaction platform technologies such as the "Blockchain" method commonly used in crypto-currencies, and the "Building Blocks" project created by the WFP in 2017 designed to authenticate, record, and reconcile cash and food assistance transactions,

1. *Proposes* the expansion of the cooperation between countries on sustainable agricultural research in partnership with the FAO specifically on irrigation systems, greenhouse farming, and urban sustainable agriculture to lower the expense of advanced agricultural equipment and to ensure that small-size farmers can have access to advanced sustainable technology so that:

a. Member States with Polymer Farm technology contribute to the development of care packages consisting of materials to kickstart polymer farming to distribute to rural farmers in case of droughts and similar emergencies;

b. Ukulima Tech and similar companies develop partnerships that integrate indoor farming into developing countries using available resources;

2. *Draws attention to* the use of and education on biotechnologies in rural farming so as to create more efficient, resilient, and productive farms by:

a. Promoting the potential benefits of GMOs in sustainable farming operations;

 b. Calling upon willing Member States to provide aid in the form of biotechnologies such as GMOs and other necessary informational assistance in order to utilize them effectively;

c. Promoting private biomedical companies to contribute resources and education on how to use these agricultural technologies efficiently, safely, and effectively;

d. Researching through programs mirroring Brazil's Direct Planting System that have utilized effective peer learning techniques to increase sustainable crop production;

- e. Promoting GMO research and development in order to increase resilient crops for nations plagued by harsh climates, pests, and environmental disasters;
 - 3. *Suggests* that national governments engage in Public Private Partnerships in collaboration with the WFP through incentives like tax reductions, legal and operative incentives, a clear allocation of risk, and international accounting standards to help facilitate the funding necessary for food insecurity alleviation programs set by the WFP;
 - 4. *Recommends* the further cooperation between WFP and microfinance organizations and programs to help grant access to investment opportunities from development banks such as the Asian Infrastructure Development Bank and the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh where:
 - a. WFP will be the platform to select specific organizations with the potential to implement agricultural or agriculture-related projects as well as notifying them concerning the investment;
 - b. WFP will provide credibility for microfinance organizations to get access to larger investment opportunities from development banks as well as micro loans like the ones distributed to more than 2,688 mothers in the governorates of Assiut, Aswan, Sohag, Luxor, Sharqia and Beni Suef in Egypt as of January 2018;
 - 5. Strengthens the expansion of the Food for Asset Assistance program from its implementation in fifty-two countries to its establishment in additional nations in the regions of Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America to provide additional asset building programs in developing nations, with the idea to strengthen, improve, and further expand the program within a five year period, so as to provide immediate food assistance as well as local community-based programs for land rehabilitation, resource invigorating, and asset building that guarantees sustainable food production in the future, particularly in Climate Change impacted regions where:
 - a. Asset building includes:

- i. Water Ponds;
- ii. Irrigation Systems;
- iii. Hillside Terraces;
- iv. Tree Plantings and Fruit Orchards;
- v. Community Gardens;
- vi. Interim and Basic Roads:
- b. Asset building creates a learning environment where individuals are actively engaged in resourcegenerating activities, returning the independence and dignity to communities in need;
- 6. Invites the creation of a smartphone recycling campaign managed by national governments in developed nations where individual users would donate previously used smartphones in fair state to recollection campaigns across different city centers that would be further donated to individuals in developing nations, for the purpose of granting individuals in developing nations the adequate tools for internet and technology-based innovation to connect to grassroot solutions to hunger as presently mentioned, including weather updates, disaster notifications, agricultural and farming tips, and other mobile smartphone uses;
- 7. *Stresses* the enhancement of PPPs between technology-focused companies like influential e-commerce giants such as Amazon and Alibaba and national governments to help bring internet and electricity resources imperative to the proper implementation of innovative ideas as well as essential to human rights which would:
 - a. Grant internet access to local populations to ensure their global inclusion and online presence in food and meal preparation programs to facilitate knowledge on alleviating hunger and to ensure local farmers receive food emergency notifications and appropriate responses;
 - b. Provide incentives to private companies such as tax deductions and funding towards research and development through their national governments;

- Consequently, boost food industries and open food markets in rural areas, including through ecommerce mechanisms:
- 8. *Encourages* the increase of PPPs in the areas of research with corporations such as the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA) to further innovation on an international scale and increase success in the area of biotechnology;
- 9. *Endorses* the spearheading of a publicity campaign by the WFP Corporate Communications Strategy and Branding through conventional methods like billboards and brochures in order to promote the usage of applications like WeFarm in developing nations and modern methods like online and social media ads to promote donation efforts in developed nations through the Share the Meal application;
- 10. Further invites the development of prompt response strategies in emergency scenarios such as those caused by climate change and conflict with collaboration from multilateral programs to assist rural farmers by building Public Private Partnerships with NGOs that would increase financial support and access to multiple networks of experts local to the country to NGOs that strive to alleviate hunger in the specific scenario in order to mitigate the effects of crisis based hunger;
- 11. *Strongly suggests* expansion of the WFP Building Blocks pilot program initially applied in Sindh, Pakistan, based on Blockchain technology which would:
 - a. Increase cost savings, traceability of information, proper authorized documentation, and reduce the transaction times and costs of Cash-Based Transfers (CBTs) in other developing nations in the process of instituting CBTs;
 - b. Provide a distributed digital ledger hosted across a network of participants at a regional and international level that does not require third-party facilitators or fees;
 - c. Evaluate, revise, and build upon previous practices instituted in Pakistan in order to ensure the program's success for future implementation across different regions and countries, taking into consideration learning curves, cultural and technological differences, and implementation challenges.



Committee: World Food Programme

Topic: Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Eradicate Hunger

The World Food Programme,

Recognizing the sovereignty of Member States as stated in the Charter of the United Nations (1945) Chapter 2.1,

Recognizing the economy and strong infrastructure as the basis of effective agricultural development,

Aware of the need for Member States to utilize existing regional frameworks to more efficiently and effectively facilitate domestic infrastructure investment,

Reaffirming that the root causes of global hunger lie not in the lack of technology or insufficient food production but in social inequalities,

Recognizing the differences between the rural and urban areas as well as the major role of rural smallholder farmers in combating food insecurity,

Reinforcing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 15, and 17, which emphasizes world food hunger, education, innovation, and infrastructure through the utilization of ecosystems in a sustainable manner, and strengthen partnerships for these goals, for the stability in economic and physical development,

Having examined the success of regional programs such as the African Union's Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) in promoting the creation of infrastructure by ensuring the adoption of locally adapted technologies to increase access to food assistance, providing small-scale farmers in isolated, rural areas with the information necessary to improve production as well as their ability to distribute to global markets, using mapping technologies to identify unused areas as possible alternative farming locations to be used during times of crises, and working to develop domestic food production to alleviate the dependency on food aid in times of emergency-related food insecurity,

Recognizing the success of the yearly Urban Agriculture Forum (UAF) taking place in Australia, presenting urban agriculture as a solution to offer food security for low income groups,

Stressing the importance of cooperation among Member States as outlined in General Assembly resolution 72/239 on "United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019-2028)" (2017) to foster growth and efficiency in food production,

Further recalling the role of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in combating world hunger through improvements in agriculture techniques, development, and research,

Recognizing General Assembly resolution 58/129 on "Towards global partnerships" (2003) and General Assembly resolution 55/215 on "Towards global partnerships" (2000) to create an environment that is conducive to sustainable development and the elimination of poverty and hunger,

Realizing the growing need for an improved framework that highlights cooperation within the different institutions and programs of the World Food Programme (WFP) to enable the transfer of technological knowledge,

Being aware of the importance of sharing technological knowledge especially between developed and less developed countries, such as through the North-South, South-South, and Triangular cooperation,

Recognizing the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) for highlighting the increased need for environmentally friendly and sustainable methods to produce food, such as applying integrated pest management or adopting agroforestry practices,

Acknowledging the need for further concentration and focus on the rehabilitation and development stages of the emergency-rehabilitation-development continuum,

Pointing out that the lacking access by farmers to full range of credit, banking and financial services and facilities is a major barrier to overcoming poverty and reduce food insecurity,

Alarmed by the fact that one third of food produced in the world is lost or wasted for human consumption globally,

Taking note of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' (OCHA) Occasional Policy Paper on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in Humanitarian Response (2014) and the increased potential of drones within logistics of humanitarian efforts such as the Pouncer Drone,

Acknowledging the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing report, "Too Important to Fail: addressing the humanitarian financing gap" and its proposal of a "Grand Bargain", a non-binding agreement between more than 40 of the biggest donors and aid providers, which aims to get more means into the hands of people in need by fostering greater mutual trust between aid donors and recipients,

Affirming the approach of cash-based transfers as the prime approach of conducting food assistance which helps people in need by cash support rather than food support to enable them to buy what they need the most,

Emphasizing the General Assembly resolution 64/135 on "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly" (2009), which promotes the need to prioritize the efforts of increasing agricultural efficiency and combating hunger in rural areas where hunger is more concentrated,

Recognizing the need for increased capacity in food production as outlined in General Assembly resolution 72/238 on "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition" (2017) as it is necessary to combat hunger at a global level,

Approving the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) assisting Member States in assessing science, technology, and innovation (STI), such as the use of projects such as the Global Observatory of Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy (GO-SPIN) for better data collection, cooperation between public institutions and the private sector, and improved evidence-based decisions and policy through comparisons between Member States in real time,

Reminding Member States to focus on finding environmentally-friendly energy resources, such as micro-hydro power, that will allow for the creation and support of the following proposed emergency response programs and policies by providing necessary electricity to vulnerable populations in times of crisis,

Observing the success of indoor farms and the specific technologies they provide, such as Japan's Spread and "GE Japan" LED lights, and the great impact they have on agricultural production and conserving fertile land and water,

Confident that in indoor farms, with their closed factory environments, water can be conserved by preventing evaporation and preventing it from seeping through the soil;

Aware of the need to produce environmentally sustainable food with greater energy efficiency than current farming practices as high-tech food using electricity,

Supporting the accomplished work within the Virtual Farmer Market application from the WFP's Innovation
 Accelerator, to provide rural farmers market access within a single Member State,

- 1. *Suggests* the partnership of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UN bodies such as the Remote Sensing Seismology Authority and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to establish a database of information regarding the conditions of different regions' agricultural needs and that with the WFP and FAO's help NGOs provide agricultural training specific to those regions;
- 2. Expand on green initiatives already in place to address the long-term approach to STI by expanding the UNESCO Institute of Statistics STI evaluations of factors of human and financial resources for developing countries to provide a more in-depth information on agricultural practices for vulnerable populations;
- 3. *Suggests* that the WFP work with the FAO and regional bodies such as the African Union and European Union to promote domestic agricultural investment by implementing policies aimed at connecting isolated farming communities information sharing technology in order that those communities can reach global markets and more effectively adapt in times of emergency-related food insecurity;
- 4. Strongly supports the strengthening of international cooperation by working with the FAO to facilitate collaboration between Member States in the creation of multiple international projects, such as the WFP Purchase for Progress (P4P) and FAO's Central American Agri-Food Chain Project, in order to gather different nations facing the same agricultural issues and to adopt the same agricultural policies like the training of farmers in effective using of new agricultural machines, the empowerment of smallholder farmers, the development of training workshops for a better understanding of non-traditional agricultural techniques, and most importantly the implementation of trade forums between Member States;
- 5. Solemnly affirms governments to organize ARCAs (Annual Regional Conference on Agriculture), regional conferences assembling every year in January, to discuss the issues encountered in agriculture during the previous year and solutions necessitating technological innovations:
 - Dividing the conferences according to the world's climatic regions, and having it take place in a city linked to the region's agriculture activity that has the capacity to host a conference of several dozen representatives;
 - b. Dividing each region into districts containing farmers which would elect two representatives to the conference:
 - c. Inviting expert guests, who would address the body, either by videoconference or in-person, to communicate knowledge to a greater number of farmers in different locations, to further educate small local farmers on the best way to utilize their lands and livestock;
 - d. Extending the organization of these conferences to the countries agreeing to the ARCA system, and limiting ARCA access to the farmers living on the Member States' territory;
 - e. Inviting governments to encourage cooperation between the private sector and farmers to create solutions that are adapted to the difficulties faced in agriculture found and discussed at the ARCA conferences and to collaborate on the research of technological innovations responding to these difficulties;
- 6. Expresses its hope in collaboration with NGOs, such as the Water Project, which builds wells and provides innovative irrigation technology in areas vulnerable to desertification, such as in Australia, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Sudan, or Afghanistan, to improve access to water sources for agriculture to enhance crop productivity and food security, assisting in the transfer from food aid to food assistance;
- 7. *Expresses* the need for a pioneer testing community in countries that suffer from chronic hunger, such as India, to try new technologies and conduct pre-tests before distributing new developed technologies to countries in need that:

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- a. Encourages Member States to choose testing communities in terms of effectiveness and scalability to reach as many people in hunger as possible;
- b. Implements a strict structure and regulation taking in consideration of the environmental issues, the human rights of the worker, and the safety of both workers;
- c. Creates an institution present in the local regions where the said communities are established, to regulate the activities done, to make sure that the workers are in good conditions, that the entire working procedure is safe as well as other aspects taken in consideration at the discretion of the WFP's and other programs represented;
- d. Offers the possibility to diminish the degree of error possible within the scientific and technological projects presented in the communities by creating, through the new legislated and regulated structure, an environment less subject to the important variations who might have an negative impact on the precision and the efficiency of the projects;
- e. Encourages the following proposals to be integrated within the pioneer testing communities;
- 8. Considers drones as an example to reach areas difficult to access due to geographical or vulnerable zones with food aid through, similar to the wings and body of the Pouncer Drone which can be packed with food, water, and medicine and has a pre-formed shell that is made out of wood so it can be used as shelter or burned for cooking, fuel, or heating and:
 - a. Recommends the use of a reusable drones meaning saving time, money and guaranteeing food provision;
 - b. Proposes to the UN Security Council to develop a framework for the use of unarmed Unmanned Aerial Vehicles in humanitarian missions;
- 9. *Recommends* to Member States to ensure all parts of their respective civilians, especially women and rural population, have access to the formal market, public services, and basic financial products such as loans and savings accounts;
- 10. *Considers* private sector investments and involvement as key to local, regional, and national programs and initiatives to combat hunger by innovating food production and distribution:
 - a. Submits the idea of creating an accessible and public platform with the help of the WFP's Innovation Accelerator in Munich, to give the opportunity to the targeted and interested populations to have an informative support on the agricultural point of view and this platform would be a free space for sharing information on a bilateral aspect for both academics and workers in the agricultural sphere;
 - b. Creates a possible solution to help workers in a more difficult phase of development to be able to reach the same level as its congener on a worldwide scale;
- 11. *Encourages* private investors to bring both legal and non-legal trade barriers the to the WFPs and Member States attention by reporting to the WFP the different barriers analyzed within the country they invest in, with either a written comment or during a meeting with representatives of both parties;
- 12. *Suggest* to Member States to welcome private investment by both national and foreign private companies in the agricultural, logistics, and food sector, this decision of the WFP, in this case, would deem discrimination against foreign direct investment in these areas as obstacles to implementing technological innovations and ultimately to the WFPs mandate:
- 13. Reaffirms that regarding funding of innovative approaches and technologies in the WFPs work:

Emphasizes the Executive Board's role to set the priorities in which areas of the WFPs work, including logistics, administration, and funding, the WFP administration should pioneer innovations first; b. Supports the ultimate and specific decision on which pilot projects are pioneered established in the WFP's routine remains the decision of the WFP senior management; 14. Regards the role of private donors and investors as key especially in kick-starting innovative projects and the key role of public donors in alleviating acute hunger crises; 15. Invites public and private donors to comply with the Grand Bargain to make funding more reliable, transparent and effective and: a. Reaffirms the WFPs task to comply with increased transparency standards;

- b. Recognizes the necessity to harmonize evaluation standards to reduce the bureaucratic burden to both the WFP and evaluators like the Multilateral Organizations Performance Assessment Network;
- 16. Suggests the institutions to further their private funding initiatives with projects in the sphere of new technologies and social media like the WFP Share the Meal application, which gives the opportunity to people with a smartphone to donate 0.50 American dollars and therefore buy a meal for a needy individual whereas this initiative is:
 - a. Promoting the WFP as the most effective organization to alleviate global hunger through an ad campaign published on social medias and television, that will be more accessible and viewable for the population;
 - b. Allowing individuals to participate actively in the fight against hunger with the help of their smartphone, by creating new interactive initiatives;
- 17. *Invites* Member States to combine and utilize the following mapping programs to increase the response efficiency of providing food resources to and increasing food security analysis within vulnerable populations throughout the duration of emergency crises using:
 - a. Missing Maps, an app that allows users to take pictures of their surroundings during emergency situations to map particularly vulnerable areas to increase the ability of NGOs to better respond to food crises, and therefore increase the accessibility of vulnerable areas to help, with;
 - b. The Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping system (VAM), which collects location data and designates areas in emergencies that require the greatest amount of assistance;
- 18. *Recommends* the implementation of irrigation expansion projects within willing Member States, such as ones outlined in Brazil's National Irrigation Policy, to increase accessibility to non-irrigated areas to enhance productivity which aim for:
 - a. Irrigation expansion projects based on data collected through mapping systems to extend current irrigation systems and reach areas where irrigation is not readily available;
 - b. The promotion of local and regional agricultural development with emphasis on less-developed geographic areas;
 - c. Encourage investment in private irrigation projects as well as providing incentives to foster investment in irrigation projects;
- 19. *Encourages* the development of non-traditional agriculture, such as urban agriculture, to help regions that are in conflict or facing harsh climate conditions, mainly African and Middle Eastern countries, to be able to maintain

their access to food, and therefore allow their food production to be sufficient to feed their population during crisis by:

- a. Inviting Member States to develop agriculture in urban areas by expanding the use of devices capable of monitoring root temperatures and providing necessary nutrients to the plant, increasing production and quality, as developed by the People's Republic of China;
- b. Implementing the expansion of yearly forums on urban agriculture, between countries currently developing or utilizing urban agricultural techniques and those in need of those techniques, the forum would gather a couple of dozens of representatives and would take place in a city of one of the countries that has the capacity to host such an event;
- c. Encouraging research for the development of efficient urban agriculture, such as developing techniques to increase the quantity of nutrients in food to improve quality-over-quantity production, thus limiting waste and representing an environmentally friendly solution and a good alternative to the use of genetically-modified organisms (GMOs), as the use of GMOs does not represent a long term solution to insure food security;
- 20. *Calls upon* Member States to implement projects similar to Japan's *Spread*, indoor farms, which has allowed an increase of farming productivity with little use of water and soil as a means to provide as much food for as many people in a cost-effective way by:
 - a. Believing that interested Member States will benefit from indoor farms due to the fact that food waste is reduced to less than 3 % for coreless lettuce compared to the 30 to 40 % waste from lettuce grown outdoors;
 - b. Encouraging the use of "GE Japan" LED lights that provides a spectrum of lights that allow for photosynthesis, cell division, and other aspects necessary to plant growth;
- 21. *Promotes* the development of projects that will allow populations and lands to rapidly recover from conflicts or natural catastrophes and produce food rapidly, efficiently, and durably through:
 - a. The development of technological means to understand the best way of utilizing various lands and products, such as soil testing, to allow farmers to analyze and create a scientific fertilizing program adapted to the soil, and therefore, to avoid the over-consumption of pesticides and fertilizers;
 - b. The development of techniques to improve the quantity and the quality of food produced, as accomplished by the People's Republic of China by developing drones capable of spraying the fertilizers and pesticides that will allow a limited consumption of fertilizers and pesticides and a more rapid production of food and therefore quicker food security;
 - c. The implementation of environmentally-friendly solutions to insure food security;
- 22. *Encourages* the FAO to implement the VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland's synthetic protein made out of electricity from renewable resources and carbon dioxide by:
 - a. Further inviting willing and able Member States to acquire and use synthetic protein as food and animal feed;
 - b. Confirms that the method releases food production from restrictions related to the environment and conditions for agriculture, such as the right temperature, humidity or a certain soil type;
 - Notes that the protein can be produced anywhere where renewable energy, such as solar energy, is
 available, and is an innovative way of providing nutrients to vulnerable and rural areas even in times of
 crop failure;

- d. Reaffirms that the process of creating food from electricity can be nearly 10 times as energy-efficient as common photosynthesis, which is used for cultivation;
- Requests Member States to implement projects similar to Virtual Farmers Market, which provides an increase
 of market access for smallholder farmers along with providing real-time and accurate information on what crops are worth at that specific time.