Documentation of the Work of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) NMUN Simulation*

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Commission on Population and Development (CPD)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

I. Improving Accessibility and the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Urban Areas
II. Supporting a Growing Population of Older Persons in Rural Areas
III. Population, Food Security, Nutrition, and Sustainable Development

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Vote</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CPD/1/1</td>
<td>Population, Food Security, Nutrition, and Sustainable Development</td>
<td>Adopted by Acclamation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary Report

The Commission on Population and Development held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

I. Improving Accessibility and the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Urban Areas
II. Supporting a Growing Population of Older Persons in Rural Areas
III. Population, Food Security, Nutrition, and Sustainable Development

The session was attended by representatives of 20 Member States and 0 Observers; 1 non-governmental organization also attended the meeting.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of III, I, II, beginning discussion on the topic of “Population, Food Security, Nutrition, and Sustainable Development”. By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of three proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics including relief programs, food security and COVID-19, technological innovations, re-allocation of food, employment programs, food security and gender, education for reproductive health, the role of regional networks in creating infrastructure for more effective food distribution, and the role of NGOs in supporting developing nations achieve food security. On Monday and Tuesday, debate in CPD was diplomatic and productive and delegates worked exceedingly well together.

On Wednesday, one draft resolution had been approved by the Dais, which had no amendments. The committee adopted one resolution following voting procedure, which received unanimous support by the body. The resolution represented a wide range of issues, including educational initiatives, research and development, tracking progress, employment programs, supporting agriculture, multilateral and cross-sector collaboration, regional initiatives, equitable distribution of foodstuffs, food forecasting systems, and knowledge sharing. Delegates were committed all week to fruitful discussions and collaboration aimed at finding short- and long-term solutions to the problems that intersect population, food security, nutrition, and sustainable development.
The Commission on Population and Development,

Acknowledging the actions and protocols established by the 1996 World Food Summit Plan of Action and the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action (ICPD PoA) to target state economic plans for proper responses to food security issues,

Reaffirming the 2015 General Assembly resolution 70/1 on “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 5 (gender equality), and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) to the advancement of population, food security, nutrition, and sustainable development,

Emphasizing the points made at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations’ (FAO) 37th session (2011) by the underrepresentation of women in agriculture, their distinctly important role in the field of agriculture and significant contribution to food security, and further pointing to the importance of sustainable education to ensure a qualitative supply of nutrition for future generations,

Highlighting the dire situation of women as expressed in the Gender Equality and Food Security Report (2013) by FAO and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which mention the role of women and girls as they have been subjected to the loss of certain nutrients as pregnancies are highly affected by the state of the mother,

Having studied the United Nations Decade of Family Farming 2019-2028: Global Action Plan, which specifies a paramount plan to promote the empowerment of women in the agricultural sector as leaders and owners of farmland,

Recognizing how the 2020 report Use of Data in Decision Making by the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) shows that information on malnutrition plays a critical role to further promote the decision-making and effective monitoring tools to collect data,

Convinced the support of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in less developed countries (LDCs) play a critical role in reaffirming partnerships between the public and private sectors in encouraging for negotiation and participation in solutions for food insecurity without violations of state sovereignty,

Knowing the world can feed 1.5 times its current population which shows the core problem is not a lack of food supply but rather inefficient food distribution and equity,

Reiterating the importance of self-sufficient food production to sustainable development by promoting local food distribution systems as laid out by SDG 2,

Stressing that according to the FAO’s Global Food Losses and Food Waste Report (2011), a third of the food produced for human consumption is lost or thrown away which adds up to a worrying amount of 1.3 billion tons every year,

Approving a long-term sustainable plan of action that can provide for the exponential growth of population and the issues of food insecurity and malnutrition within the short- and long-term,
Acknowledging the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the ability to address food security issues as emphasized by the Commission on Population and Development’s (CPD) 53rd session on “Population, food security, nutrition, and sustainable development” (E/CN.9/2020/2) (2020),

1. Recommends all Member States to establish universal education plans facilitated by the United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to promote the importance of nutrition in family planning while stressing the effects of food insecurity on maternal and infant health, while also highlighting technological advancements for sustainable agriculture by:
   a. Encouraging ECOSOC to promote collaborations with international actors such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) surrounding the topic of agriculture and nutrition education;
   b. Taking note of CPD resolution CN.9/2010/3 on “Health, morbidity, mortality, and development” in the addition of an aid system focused on providing nutrition and food security towards women before, during, and after their pregnancies to prevent malnutrition and morbidity in the mother’s and infant’s lives;

2. Supports increased research as well as the foundation for an international data gathering framework on the status of the consumption, delivery, and quality of food to provide a sustainable label to food produced by farmers promoting sustainable soil use;

3. Recommends an emphasis on research, development, and assistance in implementing agricultural technologies to promote environmentally sustainable farming practices that address food security by:
   a. Encouraging FAO to make the Digital Agriculture Forum a recurring, bi-annual conference to allow multilateral collaboration between Member States, NGOs, and innovators of the technological development industry;
   b. Encouraging the promotion of education surrounding digital literacy for smallholder farmers to allow for an effective implementation of agricultural technologies;
   c. Inviting further research on the efficacy of e-commerce platforms in improving food accessibility and affordability;
   d. Promoting research on agricultural techniques adapted to areas facing the most severe effects of global warming;
   e. Emphasizing further development and implementation for artificial intelligence technologies to address issues related to agricultural practices;

4. Suggests an annual review of progress regarding the inclusion of women in agriculture and establishing a Rapporteur Working Group to be composed of the following parties:
   a. Experts and specialists in the cultural and historical background of the given community;
   b. Experts in the promotion of women’s rights;
   c. ECOSOC electing a rapporteur representative;
   d. Local representatives and structures, such as local community associations, community leaders of all sorts, and NGOs working in the area;
5. **Encourages** Member States to support local governments in granting employment opportunities to reduce poverty in populations worldwide by:

   a. Stressing the importance of employment opportunities in local agriculture, which will be implemented by local governments first;

   b. Recognizing that an abundance of agricultural produce through further employment opportunities will allow for more affordable and nutritious foods for the wider community;

   c. Reaffirming if local governments are unable to support a universal job program focused on agriculture, CPD would recommend for NGOs to develop the local government’s economy;

6. **Promotes** state-implemented and robust-targeted social protection programs to improve access to healthy and nutritious food, such as emergency aid programs, food assistance programs focused on healthy foods, and ensuring alternatives to school lunch programs when schools are closed, assisted by foreign aid if accepted;

7. **Recommends** collaboration between CPD, UN programs and agencies, Member States, and NGOs to expand, conduct, and share research on progressing relief programs in times of crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, to strengthen food security and nutrition initiatives for all populations by:

   a. Collaborating alongside the World Food Programme (WFP) and FAO to establish a monitoring system within their own borders to collect and evaluate the data, quantity, and nutritional value of food; adopt regional networks to share the monitoring review and information among Member States; and share good practices and information at the International Conference on Nutrition to promote those effective implementations;

   b. Supporting partnerships with UN programs such as WFP, FAO, the International Fund for Agriculture (IFAD), and NGOs such as Oxfam International, in sharing resources and knowledge surrounding food security to curate research;

   c. Updating the 1994 ICPD PoA to include nutrition and food security resilience to ensure updated measures are taken to strengthen food security, nutrition, and sustainable development in supporting the 2030 SDGs;

8. **Endorses** existing regional bodies to adopt regional food security networks modeled after the Association for Southeast Asian Nations’ (ASEAN) Integrated Food Security Framework (IFSF) and Inter-Sectoral Consultative Conference on Food Security and Nutrition (ISCC), where all Member States can build diplomatic ties related to food security and have an equal vote by:

   a. Ensuring regional frameworks can focus on improving food supply chains through increased communication between Member States;

   b. Encouraging collaborations leading to the establishment of an inter-trading platform where Member States can exchange produce when faced with shortages in order to promote equitable food access;

   c. Strengthening emergency supplies through the promotion of an increased investment in agricultural technology;

   d. Establishing partnerships with NGOs involved in the region and private corporations to support local farms and communities;
9. Welcomes a regulated, resilient, and equitable distribution of agricultural goods and products among Member States and their individuals to address contrasting issues of food waste, scarcity, and stable accessibility by:

   a. Recommending FAO to conduct research on the overproduction of food and food shortages to determine where there is potential for reallocating surpluses, as well as promoting the creation of a sustainable label for food produced by farmers promoting sustainable soil use;

   b. Encouraging the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) to implement and develop technology and infrastructure to improve shortages and transportation for reducing food loss;

   c. Advising Member States to consider developing tailored campaigns and monitoring programs in coordination with FAO to reduce food waste and end world hunger while securing access to nutritious foods;

   d. Collaborating with private and public market-leading companies in the food, agricultural, and transport sectors in adapting food production and distribution to make products accessible to all populations, while reducing food-related greenhouse gases without diminishing advancements in the pursuit of nutrition goals;

   e. Strengthening local food production while providing incentives for varying scales of agri-food enterprises to participate in supply chains to maintain a high circulation of food throughout Member States and regions;

10. Urges Member States to share their knowledge and expertise through cross-sector collaborations similar to ASEAN's ISCC to:

   a. Improve the efforts of sustainable agroecological innovations;

   b. Reduce individual funding commitments by Member States through resource-sharing that Member States will provide for each other in such international groups to reduce the overall financial burden;

11. Strongly encourages Member States to commit to educating populations on food security, food distribution, adequate nutrition, and assisting in technological advancements for sustainable farming, aquaculture, animal production, and forestry to provide adequate soil management and to maintain biodiversity;

12. Suggests the collaboration of already existing food demand forecasting systems, such as CPD’s Demographic Data Systems Unit (DDSU), to prepare and disseminate information about Member States, research, clients, and ECOSOC to:

   a. Sharpen forecast accuracy;

   b. Supplement weather information, which is often used for food demand forecasting, with sales data and other factors to identify trends in production and purchasing behavior;

   c. Help private sector actors in scaling back excess production and inventory losses aside from supporting people to reduce food waste and loss;

13. Invites all Member States at the next FAO conference to share their knowledge and expertise of sustainable agricultural practices that promote self-sufficiency such as:
a. Urban and peri-urban agricultural distribution practices developed by the public and private sectors, which include techniques that would enable urban areas to not exclusively rely on traditional rural agriculture;

b. Sustainable and social farming in rural areas to promote public-private partnerships between Member States in need of international collaboration, assistance, and private companies.