

# Documentation of the Work of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD) NMUN Simulation\*



# NMUN•NY 2024 Session 2 1 – 5 April 2024

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# **Commission for Social Development (CSocD)**

#### **Committee Staff**

Director	Tobias Willms
Assistant Director	Chris Stansel
Chair	Claire Lombardo

## **Agenda**

- 1. Addressing Food Insecurity through the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems
- 2. Social Inclusion of the Elderly

## **Resolutions adopted by the Committee**

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
CSocD/1/1	Addressing Food Insecurity through the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems	Adopted without a recorded vote
CSocD/1/2	Addressing Food Insecurity through the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems	Adopted without a recorded vote
CSocD/1/3	Addressing Food Insecurity through the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems	Adopted without a recorded vote
CSocD/2/1	Social Inclusion of the Elderly	Adopted without a recorded vote
CSocD/2/2	Social Inclusion of the Elderly	Adopted without a recorded vote
CSocD/2/3	Social Inclusion of the Elderly	18 in favor, 2 against, 11 abstentions
CSocD/2/4	Social Inclusion of the Elderly	Adopted without a recorded vote

#### **Summary Report**

The Commission for Social Development held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- 1. Addressing Food Insecurity through the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems
- 2. Social Inclusion of the Elderly

The session was attended by representatives of 31 Member States. On Monday, the committee adopted its agenda and began discussion on the topic of "Addressing Food Insecurity through the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems."

By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of 4 proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics, such as technology, education, and knowledge sharing platforms. The tone and atmosphere of the committee was very collaborative and engaging. Among other aspects of the topic, delegates debated the implementation of educational programs regarding sustainable agriculture as well as possible benefits of public-private partnerships.

On Wednesday, 2 working groups combined their ideas into one proposal. By Thursday, 3 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, 1 of which had a friendly amendment. The committee adopted 3 resolutions, all of which received unanimous support. These resolutions discussed a wide range of issues, including frameworks for possible collaborations between Member States and non-governmental organizations.

The committee then began discussion of its second agenda item. Through diplomatic effort, delegates produced 4 working papers on various aspects of the social inclusion of older persons, which were accepted by the Dais by the end of the second session on Thursday. The committee adopted all 4 resolutions, with 3 receiving unanimous support by the body.



**Committee:** Commission for Social Development

Topic: Addressing Food Insecurity through the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems

The Commission for Social Development,

Expressing serious concern about the burden placed on the United Nations by the COVID-19 pandemic, hindering its ability to pursue the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with special consideration to SDG 2 (zero hunger), an area in which Developing Countries, and Conflict Afflicted States have been impacted disproportionately,

Fully aware that the amount of people experiencing or at risk of acute food insecurity has risen from 135 million people, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, to more than 333 million people following the COVID-19 pandemic, according to estimations made by the United Nations (UN) World Food Programme (WFP),

Expressing its appreciation for General Assembly Resolution 78/168, calling upon international financial institutions to support developing countries, as they work to respond to the global food security crisis,

Appreciating the actions taken by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), and its Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS), focusing on promoting public-private partnerships and investments to ensure that APEC economies are capable of developing sustainable food systems,

Recognizing the critical importance of access to credit and markets, as stated in the Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO's) Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security for small scale farmers in achieving food security for local communities, overall poverty alleviation, and sustainable development,

Emphasizing the importance of Member States providing aid following the examples outlined in the FAO's report A Multi-Billion-Dollar Opportunity: Repurposing agricultural support to transform food systems, which advocates for increased investments in irrigation, infrastructure, and technology as well as providing support in the form of subsidized fertilizers, seeds, and other agricultural equipment,

Realizing the vital role which smallholder farmers play in the successful promotion of sustainable food systems by providing food for the local population and the subsequent economic development through food security,

Fully alarmed that each year the globe loses 12 million hectares of productive land due to harmful agriculture production practices as stated by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres,

Determined to protect producers from inflated prices, especially fertilizer prices which, according to the FAO, have increased by 45% and continue to grow alongside natural gas prices, and supporting farms in economic difficulty,

Considering the brief Achieving Sustainable Development and Promoting Development Cooperation by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, which highlights the uses of micro loan financing to foster sustainable development, expand arable land, and enhance fertility,

Deeply concerned that the world's arable land has decreased by nearly a third since 1961 which is largely caused by reforestation, soil erosion, and desertification due to climate change,

Bearing in mind the importance of platforms and forums such as the Committee on World Food Security concerning technology,

Expressing concern for the lack of regulatory frameworks for organic agriculture in developing countries, depriving smallholder farmers of access to a lucrative market and emphasizing the significance of certification systems in ensuring the integrity and credibility of organic products,

Convinced of the need to implement programs in schools, as outlined in ECOSOC's report Ready to learn and thrive: school health and nutrition around the world, which demonstrated the paramount importance of micronutrient supplementation and nutritional education for the purpose of combating malnutrition, improving public health, and promoting the well-being of vulnerable populations,

Acknowledging the inherent right of all Member States to exercise sovereignty over their energy policies and infrastructure development as access to reliable and affordable energy is among the most critical variables in ensuring food security, enhancing agricultural productivity, and fostering sustainable development,

Aware of the FAO statistics that show between 691 million and 783 million people faced hunger in 2022,

Reaffirming the SDGital 2030 initiative, which works to empower existing agro-ecologies and conservation technologies that support historically marginalized communities like small-scale producers, farmers, and children,

Conscious of the disproportionate impact of food insecurity on vulnerable populations and SDG 2, aimed to be achieved by 2030 and acknowledging the urgency of addressing climate change as a predominant driver behind food insecurity,

Welcoming a foreign aid strategy to highlight the need for humanitarian aid to effectively address food insecurity and fulfill individuals' basic needs,

Noting the benefit of the use of urban agriculture to promote a self-sustainable food system within a member state aligning with the Urban Agriculture Sustainability Act,

*Drawing attention to* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights on The Right to Adequate Food, which reiterates the importance of equal distribution for food resources in remote and conflict-prone areas to overcome the loss of biodiversity, unsustainable land, and ultimately, hunger,

Fully Convinced of the necessity for information-sharing systems and capacity building to allow plausible solutions to be implemented in Member States, especially the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and those part of the Global South,

*Encouraged by* the existing initiatives regarding sustainable food systems such as the Sustainable Food Systems Programme, which establishes strategies to establish sustainable food systems with the objective of completing the SDGs,

Cognizant of the importance of the Disaster Risk Reduction satellite system started by the United Nations in 2015,

Calling attention to global food loss and waste contributing to 8% of total greenhouse gas emissions according to the FAO,

*Promoting* robust regulations and legal frameworks to safeguard against the encroachment of biotechnology companies on Indigenous seed systems, support measures to protect seed sovereignty, and prevent the privatization of seed and food systems,

 Encourages the establishment of the Economic Partnership Summit for Food Security (EPSFD), an annual summit, which will report to the Commision for Social Development (CSocD), where Member States will report on the progress they have made in cooperating with their private sectors to develop sustainable food systems and formulate new strategies to incentivize partnerships with private businesses, with:

- a. Funding for the EPSFD being provided by the Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD) of the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA);
- The DSPD and DESA supporting the commission in monitoring the progress each
   Member States is making in forming new relationships, and formulating new strategies to
   incentivize the development of private-public relationships;
- 2. Urges Member States to support small farmers through the expansion of access to services and programs such as those outlined in the FAO's Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security and A Multi-Billion-Dollar Opportunity: Repurposing agricultural support to transform food systems, which seek to:
  - a. Promote access to affordable credit and financial services for small-scale farmers, including a method to apply for microloans in farming and agricultural technology development, empowering local farmers and increasing productivity sustainably;
  - b. Facilitate market access and transparency for small-scale farmers with measures such as fair-trade practices and improved transportation networks;
  - c. Support farmers cooperatives to enhance their bargaining power;
  - d. Advance capacity building initiatives, technical assistance, and knowledge sharing;
  - e. Promote investments in agricultural research and development, technology transfer for issues faced by small scale farmers such as climate change adaptation, pest and disease management, and soil fertility issues;
- Encourages Member States to uphold the sovereignty of all nations by abstaining from exerting
  influence or coercion over their infrastructure development, energy policies and sources, by
  making aid contingent on the development of an energy framework that ignores local needs,
  resources, and circumstances;
- 4. Suggests Member States individually advance the implementation of micronutrient supplementation programs and nutrition education in the model of UNESCO's Ready to learn and thrive: school health and nutrition around the world report;
- 5. *Encourages* the transition from Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) and trust-based systems to internationally recognized certification systems, which would:
  - a. Call upon Member States to improve national and regional capacity to set standards and implement certification schemes;
  - Invite collaboration between Member States through forums such as the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) to address the challenges posed by the discrepancy between standards developed in temperate climates and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP);

- 6. Welcomes the FAO to enhance the Sustainable Agricultural Mechanism with the development of agricultural practices and restoration of land via the implementation of agricultural technology, including but not limited to:
  - a. The development of international soil testing laboratories run by Member States focused on providing reliable and comparable information given voluntarily between Member States and projects, and developing internationally shared soil data sets, and supporting evidence-based decision-making for sustainable soil management;
  - b. The utilization of hydroponics and aquaponic technologies across equipped countries to grow and outsource produce;
  - c. The usage of vertical farming practices as a way to safeguard vital arable land;
- 7. Recommends the establishment of regional agricultural databases structured in a manner that:
  - a. Is organized by regional categories utilizing FAO monitored and maintained thread to ensure compatibility across different regions;
  - Allows for nations to share agricultural practices that have succeeded in climates similar to their own, thus furthering the research on agricultural innovations, such as genetically modified organisms (GMO's), noting increased crop hardiness, resistance to pests and disease, and greater security;
  - c. Guided by SDG 10, is working to establish a website or format so as to ensure access to as many as possible and face the least amount of barriers;
  - d. Utilizes a United Nations website or hub acting as an intermediary created and monitored by the FAO;
  - e. Calls for Member States to work together to incentivize farmers to share sustainable agricultural strategies;
  - f. Emphasizes the creation of universalized information systems on nutrition, agriculture practices, and sustainable production methods which will benefit Member States through data sharing;
- 8. Further recommends the establishment of public-private partnerships developed between Member States and private interests directly, to leverage private sector investments into the promotion of food security, and encouraging these relationships by:
  - a. Advocating for the financing of agribusiness and value chain developments, with a focus on agricultural productivity and market access through:
    - Encouraging the adoption of sustainable sourcing practices and traceability systems to promote responsible agribusiness practices, ensure food security and enhance access to markets for smallholder farmers;
    - Calling for the promotion of small business concepts that include smallholder farmers and marginalized groups to actively participate in agribusiness value chains as both suppliers and producers;

- b. Incentivizing private businesses, such as food processors or farmers, to collaborate with the public sector, through the use of:
  - Inducements from Member States that may include monetary credits or financial grants given to private businesses, that are dependent upon private businesses satisfying environmental and agricultural requirements set by the governments of their respective Member States, such as limiting the amount of greenhouse gasses that farmers may emit in a single year;
  - ii. Governments producing these funds through the repurposing of any spending centered around agricultural development;
- Advising Member States to volunteer to disclose their progress in developing strategic public-private partnerships, and holding them accountable on an annual basis, utilizing the proposed EPSFD;
- 9. Urges all Member States to create a network in which knowledge is free to be shared through innovative and new technologies, with the use of the Sustainable Food Systems Resources, Projects, and Policies to strengthen the platforms systems through:
  - a. The creation of a platform accessible to all to foster technology transfers towards developing countries, mainly for local producers, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD);
  - b. The moderation by specialized scientists in each distinct field (water recycling, soil science) chosen at the discretion of the committee;
  - The option for countries to contribute to these technology transfers through the training of local professionals preferably by experts from the High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security and Nutrition, working for the Committee on World Food Security (CFS);
  - d. The selection of a committee of experts in the fields of sustainable agriculture, waste reduction, nutrition, and supply chains in order to adequately develop the technical components of the platform;
  - e. The encouragement of reinforcement, reexamination, and reinvestment through the use of Disaster Risk Reduction Satellite system collaboration between Member States, including sharing information related to early threats, biomass development calculations, crop conditions, and other important information that would be beneficial for the farmers;
- 10. *Recognizes* cyclical, reciprocal, regenerative and ecological farming practices as an alternative to the use of harmful agrochemicals, which can be achieved through:
  - Reaffirming initiatives that enhance soil health, biodiversity, and resilience in agricultural systems, promoting the adoption of agro-ecological approaches and practices that minimize reliance on chemical inputs such as intercropping, polyculture and minimal tillage farming;
  - Increasing the number of IFAD-funded projects with NGOs to provide regenerativeagriculture education, promote earth markets or collect data on Indigenous crops becoming endangered at local and regional levels;

- 11. *Encourages* the creation of the Comprehensive Agriculture and Food Insecurity Initiative (CAFII) that will:
  - a. Fill the gap that is not addressed within FAO Resolution 9/2022 by specifically addressing the impact of agriculture and food insecurity;
  - b. Give Member States a platform to address problems within their countries and share and expand on existing programs that other Member States have implemented;
  - c. Have funding from the UNDP;
  - d. Partner with FAO to establish and implement effective policies;
- 12. Encourages Member States to adopt evaluation frameworks with international cooperation agencies on cross-cutting themes through a family-based and environmentally-friendly model for food production that uses social inclusion to enhance food obtainability;
- 13. Recommends Member States to implement a temporary price reduction on electricity, gas, heating, and foodstuffs to prevent significant deterioration in consumption and to protect producers against rising prices in energy, electricity, natural gas, and chemical fertilizers, recalling the success of previous implementations made by fellow Member States such as an Anti-Inflation Shield;
- 14. *Encourages* the implementation of a Government Strategic Reserves Program to cater to the significant difficulties regarding food security that other Member States might face and helps provide any agricultural aid to those in need;
- 15. *Invites* Member States to promote the rights of smallholder farmers, including access to land, water, seeds and other productive resources, as well as the recognition of smallholder farmer's contribution to food security;
- 16. *Recommends* the replication of successful models and the expansion of community-led seed initiatives across regions to prevent loss of biodiversity created by monocropping, including the:
  - a. Monitoring of Global Indigenous seed bank initiatives;
  - b. Expansion of the FAO voluntary seed policy guidelines;
  - Implementation of Community Managed Seed Security Models (CMSS) to ensure smallholders have access to quality seed and the right to save, use, exchange and sell seeds;
- 17. Suggests Member States to implement community gardens to help with food production in the instance of trade being cut off or in the instance of an emergency by:
  - a. Providing land and fundings for the assistance in creating community gardens;
  - b. Utilizing volunteers with training and maintenance such as access to water;
  - c. Promoting the creation of gardens such as Organoponics, urban agriculture gardens upkept by communities using organic garden techniques in small spaces promoting the growth of vegetation.



Committee: Commission for Social Development

Topic: Addressing Food Insecurity through the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems

The Commission for Social Development,

Fully aware that according to the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) 811 million people globally face hunger,

Emphasizing the importance of Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which incorporates the right to eat safe food and be free from hunger,

Acknowledging the efforts of World Food Programme (WFP) in distributing the food in areas affected by conflict, natural disasters, and other emergencies highlighting the distribution of life saving meals to 150 million of the world's most vulnerable people,

Expressing concern that 345 million children globally suffer from food insecurity, according to the WFP,

Emphasizing the critical role of education and capacity-building initiatives in empowering communities to address food insecurity locally and cultivate healthy food systems in upholding Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2 (zero hunger) and 4 (quality education),

Calling attention to the issue that globally 24 billion tons of fertile land is depleted annually, according to the UN Secretary-General António Guterres,

Acknowledging the work done by the FAO's Global Soil Doctors Program which allows for experts to test the soil, then gives professional advice,

Bearing in mind that the current geopolitical situation is restricting trade and leading to greater food insecurity, impacting developing nations and addressed by the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management,

Noting that 1.3 billion pounds of food waste is generated annually, accounting for 8 percent of annual greenhouse gasses,

Expressing concern by those unable to afford healthy diets has risen and that billions of people are unable to afford a healthy and nutritious diet in 2020, according to the FAO's State of Food Security and Nutrition,

Taking note that according to the World Bank, food price inflation exceeds overall inflation by 58.9 percent of 168 countries,

Recognizing the pivotal role in prioritizing small-scale farming and local food production initiatives in enhancing food security and promoting sustainable agriculture mirroring The United Nations Zero Hunger Challenge,

Emphasizing that 33.3 percent of adults living in rural areas suffer from food insecurity according to the World Health Organization (WHO), and stressing the importance of allowing urban and rural communities equitable access to nutritious food,

Noting that the development of new technologies such as AI can help respond to the current situation like the Secretary-General's AI Advisory Body is doing it with the Interim Report for Governing AI for humanity,

Recognizing the efforts made by the United Nations General Assembly to promote to create resolution on Artificial Intelligence (A/78/L.49) on the artificial intelligence to promote the safe, secure, and trustworthy data sharing on food waste,

- Recommends the establishment of a global information-sharing platform, Food Network Systems (FNS), under the administration of the "Department of Economic and Social Affairs" (DESA), aimed at consolidating and disseminating key knowledge and resources conducive to fostering more efficient and sustainable food production systems worldwide by:
  - a. Suggesting access to innovative technologies, best practices, and educational materials, accessible to all Member States and civilians through the United Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) disseminating it on official United Nations websites, making it accessible to every Member State and also every civilian, and thereby fostering greater collaboration and capacity-building efforts to advance SDG 2;
  - Analyzing the results of the yearly harmonization meeting with scientists of Member States in order to be sure of the effectiveness of shared documents, under the supervision of scientists from FAO, WHO, and IFAD;
  - c. Suggesting Member States to be aware of the supply chain and tracking the movement of food from the producers to consumers to reduce the wastage of the food;
  - d. Using Artificial Intelligence to analyze the historical data and trend from the food wastage in the restaurants and predict the future demands for the food in the restaurants following the guidelines stated on the General Assembly Landmark Resolution on Artificial Intelligence (A/78/L.49);
  - e. Promoting the support of aiding developing nations in need of and desiring fertilizer or fertilizer alternatives and grain stabilizing markets through voluntary donations;
- Recommends Member States to collaborate with United Nations bodies, such as the FAO, WHO, WFP, and United Nations Economic and Social Council (UNESCO), to fight against food waste, promote the access and education to a healthy nutrition for all, but especially vulnerable peoples;
- 3. Strongly suggests, the establishment of programs in collaboration between Member States aimed to enhance food production, ensure food security, and stimulate employment in the agricultural sector by:
  - a. Providing support to smallholder farmers through subsidized soil additives and other ecofriendly alternatives;
  - b. Improving seeds, extension services, and enhanced market access;
- 4. Advises Member States to promote eco-friendly farming practices such as:
  - a. Encouraging local and national governments to strengthen urban-rural transportation of organic foods through sustainable vehicles;

- Suggesting reducing reliance on harmful chemicals by implementing sustainable ecological standards in which the use of chemicals is minimized through risk assessments of natural toxins through the collaboration organizations such as the FAO and WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA);
- c. Enhancing agricultural product quality through the FAO's Global Soil Doctors Program;
- d. Emphasizing the ecological advantages for hydroponics and aquaponics;
- Recommends Member States to support developing countries requesting fertilizer and fertilizer substitutions and grain exports for their development allowing for market stabilization and increases in domestic production yields through the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management (GPNM) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
- 6. Calls upon all Member States to support rural communities' access to sustainable agriculture improving the quality of life of its rural population by:
  - a. Increasing the level of employment opportunities in rural communities through initiatives and increase diversity in rural areas;
  - b. Emphasizing the need for equitable access to veterinary aid and animal feed supplements regardless of geographic location;
- 7. Recommends the international community to invest in the development of innovative produce preservatives allowing for crops to be stored for additional time and preventing the spread of food-borne pathogens originating from viruses, funguses, and bacteria;
- 8. Encourages Member States to prioritize supporting school feeding initiatives globally, supporting vulnerable communities and developing nations to allow for schools to build food processing, achieving food sovereignty under the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Peasants (UNDROP) goals;
- 9. Stresses the importance of prioritizing the establishment of global cooperation in creating a multifaceted soil management programs through:
  - a. Providing access to essential access to soil infrastructure such as soil testing kits and mineral-rich soils;
  - b. Prioritizing providing educational lessons to national soil laboratories and rural farmers on land rehabilitation and soil restorations allowing increased production yields;
- 10. Calls upon Member States to expand upon the existing natural disasters early warning systems provided by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's (UNDRR) Hazard Information Profiles (HIP), aiming to minimize damage to crops of small-scale farmers stemming from natural disasters by:
  - a. Setting goals to provide assistance to small-scale farmers and augmenting their respective harvest;
  - b. Fostering international cooperation and knowledge sharing among Member States to enhance the effectiveness of early warning systems, ensuring timely response and

support for small-scale farmers in mitigating the impact of natural disasters on their harvests;

- 11. Further invites the international community through voluntary annual reports with data collected by domestic government officials and census data, including statistics of population facing malnutrition and share information through yearly conferences in collaboration with ECOSOC, where reports will be shared through annual conference and discussed internationally among Member States fostering knowledge sharing and collaboration;
- 12. Strongly advises the creation of information and social media campaigns in order to spread awareness of any health risk posed by malnutrition on the global and national levels in collaboration with the NGO Committee for social development.



**Committee:** Commission for Social Development

Topic: Addressing Food Insecurity through the Promotion of Sustainable Food Systems

The Commission for Social Development,

Guided by both the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action and the General Assembly resolution 70/1 "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", specifically Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 which aims to: "End hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture,"

Cognizant of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming plan that ensures the opportunity for family farmers to achieve food security, improvement of livelihoods, protection of the environment, management of nature resources, and maintenance of the elements of SDG goals,

Bearing in mind the FAO's voluntary seed policy guidelines which assist governments in policy formulation to create an enabling environment for seed sector development, enhancing seed capacity, as well as regional efforts through organizations such as the African Seed Sector Development Organization,

Disturbed that, according to the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Food Waste Index Report (2021), 10% of food-related CO2 emissions come from food that is wasted and not consumed, additionally, 20% of that food waste occurs in retail, food service, and households according to 2024 edition,

Guided by the United Nations Fifth Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDC5) Doha Programme of Action (2023), which identifies food insecurity as a major problem in low-and middle-income countries (LMIC) and emphasizes the need to increase food production and availability,

Acknowledging the crucial need to protect environmental health and ensure food safety, while recognizing the adverse effects of pesticides and fertilizers on biodiversity, soil, water, and human health, as detailed in the UNEP report Environmental and Health Impacts of Pesticides and Fertilizers and Ways of Minimizing Them (2022),

Recognizing the desperate need for funding as most Member States allocate less than 1% of GDP in support of sustainable food systems, leaving food systems vulnerable to disruption according to the UNDRR's Report of the Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Sendai Framework 2015-2030 (2023),

Concerned with the immense waste of cosmetically imperfect produce that does not meet the quality standards of the UBC, including produce that might be bruised or otherwise damaged but still consumable produce,

Highlighting the lack of progress and recurrence of food insecurity, and how over 3.1 billion persons worldwide could not afford healthy diets according to the 2023 edition of the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World Report,

Aware of the OECD-FAO eAgricultural Outlook 2018-2027 that portrays the significant role of agricultural trade and the consequences of an overreliance on global agri-food imports,

Shedding light on the importance of implementing sustainable food systems to ensure equitable access to nutritious food for current and future generations, and is concerned with the persistent challenges facing food systems internationally, including but not limited to, inadequate access to nutritious food, unsustainable agricultural practices, water scarcity, biodiversity loss, and food waste,

Welcomes NGOs such as the Global Alliance for the Future of Food, which promotes global food system transformation with the use of the NGOS Beacons Hope program network that helps formulate new and creative ways to combat challenges to sustainable food systems on a grand scale,

Recognizes the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in promoting the rights of indigenous peoples to foster sustainable food systems,

Deeply convinced by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) research on the capabilities topics such as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation,

Acknowledging that the use of "best before" on a product's label can be misleading for consumers, leading to additional food being thrown out and wasted, which disrupts the cycle of sustainability,

Noting the success of the LEAP-Agri long-term partnership for research and innovation on food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture, in developing an "into-economy" through developing sustainable insect-based value chains for improved food and nutrition security between the European Union, Kenya, and Uganda,

Applauding the efforts of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in leading international efforts to reduce hunger which is described by the FAO as a lack of regular access to enough safe and nutritious food for normal growth and development and an active and healthy life,

Considering the importance of implementing the promotion of sustainable food systems, which currently account for one-third of greenhouse gas emissions and 70 percent of the global freshwater usage, to help decrease poverty across the globe,

Alarmed by the findings of the 2023 European Union-FAO-WFP's Global Network Against Food Crises' Financing Flows and Food Crises report, which highlighted the ongoing existence of the scarcity of food insecurity dispute significant investments in food sectors,

Acknowledging the critical role of small-scale farming in promoting resilient communities and stimulating local economies to minimize food waste which currently accounts for one-third of greenhouse gas emissions and 70 percent of the global freshwater usage, as recognized in the UNDRR-FAO-WFO report Our Food Systems at Risk: Scaling Up Resilient Agri-Food Systems (2021),

Concerned with the grave risks to food nutrition and human health posed by the use of chemical pesticides classified as highly hazardous according to international standards, such as those set by the World Health Organization,

Desiring the development of industries that provide sustainable animal produce most notably in the domain of feed conversion ratio, to reduce calorie waste,

Acknowledges the 2013 FAO Forestry Paper "Edible insects: Prospects for food and feed security" and the potential of sustainable protein for member states, for innovating the food system to become more robust against climate change and improve access to nutrition for Lower Developed Countries (LDCs),

Cognizant of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming plan that ensures the opportunity for Family farmers to food security, improvement of livelihoods, protection of the environment, management of natural resources, and maintaining elements of SDG goals,

Recognizing the potential of alternative distribution channels, such as farm markets, and community-supported agriculture, to enhance food accessibility and foster direct connections between producers and consumers,

Recognizing the potential of alternative distribution channels, such as farm markets, and community-supported agriculture, to enhance food accessibility and foster direct connections between producers and consumers as supported by the Food and Agriculture Organizations (FAO) HLPE Report 14, Section 4.2.4,

Deeply concerned about the threat of agri-food waste, highlighted by a Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) report, Causes and Prevention of Food Losses and Waste, highlighting the gap between less developed and more developed markets in globalized systems, causing over-consumption, overproduction, loss in agricultural production, and misuse of natural resources,

Deeply concerned about the systematic risk and waste of globalized trade systems, stemming from an overconcentration of resources and an inability to address accurate regionalized agri-food system concerns, and taking inspiration from the Black Sea Grain initiative that helps the exportation of sea Grain through the use of ports,

*Underlines with concern* the persistent systematic economic inequalities that are contributing to food insecurity through the lack of accessible high-quality, nutritious, and safe food to those of lower economic status.

Aware of the OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2018-2027 that portrays the significant role of agricultural trade and the consequences of an overreliance on global agri-food imports,

Highly encouraging Member States to effectuate local initiatives by promoting sustainable food systems in collaboration with existing free trade initiatives among regional member states, to all member states to have accessibility to labs that help focus on testing and scaling up sustainable agricultural technologies such as precision farming tools, eco-friendly pesticides, and water-saving irrigation systems on a global scale,

Reaffirming Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), outlining the right for each Member State to benefit from scientific and technological progress as it relates to food production, distribution, conservation, and the development of reformed agrarian systems,

Recognizes the possibility of vaccination usage to increase the positive impacts on livestock health and productivity to reduce food waste,

Taking into consideration national programs that aim to develop agricultural technology ecosystems through the application of technology, as well as mentoring local-focused startup innovation programs,

Recognizes the potential of science, technology, and innovation to enhance food production and secure food availability, especially in response to crises, as recognized in the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition in Response to Crises (2023),

Realizing that globally, climate disasters according to the UN Security Council 2022 debate affected 174 million individuals and were one of the main leading causes of food insecurity of that year, showcasing the profound impact of climate change regarding food insecurity worldwide,

- 1. Suggests Member States use the four following strategic principles Exportation, Academia, Territorialized, and Technology (EATT) as a guideline when creating national policies and initiatives regarding food sustainability by:
  - Expanding exportation efforts to encourage the use of international trade through a
    variety of ports, taking inspiration from the Black Sea Grain initiative, which helps the
    exportation of agricultural products through the use of seaports, international airports,
    and rivers that provide all Member States access to sustainable agricultural goods;
  - Academia as presented in educational initiatives such as summits, joint voluntary research programs between NGOs and Member States, and knowledge-sharing platforms to make research access more equitable;
  - c. Emphasizing the importance of local/regional farm production that enhances
    territorialized efforts to implement successful agricultural practices, specifically as an
    alternative method to large industrialized corporations that are generally exclusively
    accessible to developing/developed countries;
  - d. Supporting innovative technological advances in policy that can revolutionize food systems that facilitate sustainable practices;
- Calls upon both Member States and ECOSOC to further food-chain safety nets and support protective measures that mitigate the effect that extreme weather has on the ability for food security through:
  - Supporting in preparing for natural disasters and mitigating associated agricultural and livestock vulnerabilities by expanding the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Satellite systems program led by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction;
  - Encouraging Member States to include natural disaster safety nets in national agricultural and seed policies, to protect smallholder farmers, by developing systems and frameworks for buffer stocks of seeds including relief seeds in the case of emergencies, including the consideration for food insurance policies in the case of natural disaster;
- 3. Calls on Member States to prioritize the development of efforts to oversee livestock health, particularly in regions whose food supply chain depends heavily on animal products, by collaborating with international organizations such as, but not limited to, the World Health Organization (WHO) to implement their vision of The Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP) specifically for livestock dependent rural areas' population;
- 4. Recommends that member states develop national standards and regulations to categorize and promote high-quality seeds by:
  - a. Establishing decentralized systems including the registration of community seed producers for inspection at a district, zonal, and national level;
  - b. Developing or registering with regional seed traceability systems such as the African Seed Sector Development Organization, providing listings of:
    - i. Traditional and indigenous seed varieties;

- ii. Participatory-bred seed varieties;
- Further encourages Member States to collaborate with the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) to establish the Economic Partnership Summit for Food Security (EPSFD), an annual summit where Member States will:
  - Report on the status of their progress towards specific, preventative, and realistic benchmarks set yearly in addition to the FAO's annual reports published in "The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World";
  - b. Create new or expand on existing goals for the new cycle striving to fulfill: United Nations (UN) 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), expand upon operative clause 114 on Res/66/288 of the General Assembly, policy coordination, facilities connectivity, unimpeded trade, financial integration, and people-to-people exchanges;
  - c. Formulate strategies to incentivize partnerships with private businesses and other organizations;
  - Receive additional assistance in developing stronger relationships between developed and developing countries and within each country with their intended audience including consumers and producers;
  - e. Assist in the monitoring of global seed bank initiatives;
  - f. Host voluntary participation in annual summits facilitated by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO);
  - g. Provide access to a research platform and electronic libraries based on food-sustainable programs discussed at the annual United Nations Development Cooperation Forum;
- Encourages developed Member States to remove patent and copyright restrictions on specialized food preservation, conservation, and protection technologies specifically for NGOs and Nonprofits focused on supporting these goals in developing nations;
- 7. Highlights pre-existing local initiatives to facilitate the promotion of the rights of local and indigenous farmers to their sovereignty and habitat to ensure that local food systems are protected and maintained at a grassroots level;
- 8. Asks Member States to collaborate with UNEP and UNEA through initiatives and policymaking to protect biodiversity and endangered species from practices like overfishing, animal cruelty, and agricultural expansion especially in the food production and procurement phases of food systems to ensure sustainable practices to protect ecosystems while reducing hunger;
- Invites Member States to consider creating national regulations and to acknowledge and provide social support and awareness of the alternative protein industry and combat stigma by enhancing brand, marketing, and retail support for insect-inclusive produce, increasing public awareness of existing national regulatory frameworks;

- 10. Further invites cooperation between developing countries and developed countries through voluntary participation in annual summits facilitated potentially by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which would help provide access to a research platform and electronic libraries based on food-sustainable programs discussed at the annual United Nations Development Cooperation Forum;
- 11. Advises all willing Member States to create a stable and responsible budget to implement solutions for sustainable agri-food system funds made voluntarily by the United Nations Capital Development Fund, which would potentially allow member states access to investments that offer flexibility, accessible financial instruments, a proven track of good public finance management tactics, overall funding for all research projects, and annual summits currently proposed in this resolution;
- 12. *Encourages* Member states to include national seed policies that ensure seed sustainability and economic profitability by:
  - a. Facilitating local and community-based producers to access a variety of basic crop seeds for multiplication;
  - b. Supporting capacity building for market-orientated framers, to produce, utilize, and sell quality seeds, including varieties that have high nutritional value;
  - c. Creating a mechanism that regularly determines and evaluates seed demand and supply;
- 13. Invites all Member States to collaborate with WFP to implement a grading system for food distribution institutions and corporations (such as restaurants, cafes, grocery stores, etc.) by suggesting that willing Member States can implement a bonus/malus system based on the percentage of the institution's food wasted, the institution's efforts to promote the reduction of food waste, and the institution's endeavors to educate consumers about conservative food purchase choices;
- 14. Suggests Member States model educational resources after the FAO eLearning Academy Online Training platform to provide agriculture educational training to increase crop yields and thus enhance food security for vulnerable and lacking groups, such as rural, smallholder, indigenous, female, and other disadvantaged agricultural workers;
- 15. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with local non-profit organizations and United Nations bodies in education regarding the consequences of food insecurity by:
  - Having online training sessions with mentors using mentor systems structures from local initiatives to ensure an efficient approach to the country's interest, as well as UNESCO Open Learning courses;
  - Utilizing multiple channels like seminars, workshops, pamphlets, community brochures, and community events through UNDESA and UNESCO to reach people from different socioeconomic statuses;
  - Establishing partnerships with UNESCO and UNICEF to design age-appropriate curriculums for all ages to provide education about food system sustainability, food waste, and food security;

- 16. Endorses Member States to prioritize reducing food waste by partnering with NGOs that advocate for its reduction, through consumer education and awareness campaigns that educate the public on their contributions to reduce food waste;
- 17. Recommends Member States implement training initiatives partnered with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) modeled after initiatives such as the World Bank-Bangladesh Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship, and Resilience in Bangladesh (PARTNER), which provides agricultural training on the best sustainable practices and increased economic opportunity such as market accessibility to entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector in order to increase the financial stability of small agricultural workers and entrepreneurs, decreasing poverty and improving food security;
- 18. Advocates for Member States to partner with UNESCO to create educational initiatives that can help tackle people's consumption behaviors in the first place, such as:
  - a. The exploration of enhanced food preservation methods and the prevention of excess consumption are pertinent concerns among our member states;
  - An extensive educational movement shaped by CSocD, in collaboration with UNESCO and the governments of participating countries, the initiative can reach pupils, university students, and adults working in the public sector, in a pursuit to raise awareness and educate on the topic of expiration dates and the different types of foods and their respective storage specifications;
- 19. *Advises* Member States to increase learning opportunities like conferences, which can be used to inform consumers of ways to preserve food items for longer, fostering their durability;
- 20. Requests the implementation of a panel discussion during the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Summit expanding upon operative clause 114 on Res/66/288 of the General Assembly, which focuses on the voluntary expansion of knowledge about agricultural research, more specifically based upon the cooperation between developing and developed nations;
- 21. Invites for UN databases such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UN SDG), and Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) to provide data sharing on nutrition, agriculture practices, and sustainable production methods to benefit all Member States;
- 22. Strongly suggests that Member States invest in industries that utilize blemished products undesired for human consumption, to create collaborations amongst them and farmers/producers, limiting food waste through repurposing;
- 23. Suggests that Member States collaborate with the WFP's distribution networks to deliver food and aid to regions in conflict;
- 24. *Recommends* Member States develop research programs and north-south partnerships such as the LEAP-Agri partnership for the establishment and expansion of sustainable protein focusing on entomophagy including:
  - a. Supporting multi-stakeholder partnerships improving insect value chains:
  - b. Disseminating and evaluating various models for mass produced crickets;

- c. Enhancing the commercialization of insect value chains by small and medium-sized enterprises by:
  - Developing national social policies and regulatory frameworks for utilizing crickets as livestock feed for chickens and fish as well as for human consumption;
  - ii. Promoting non-chemical fertilizer through the production and distribution of cricket frass:
- 25. Advocates for the development of animal goods industries that produce products with low FCRs (feed conversion ratios) in particular seafood due to their low FCR, to limit the amount of calories being wasted in the raising process;
- 26. Calls for Member States to model bilateral and multilateral trade stimulations after that of the WTO in their Work program on food security for LDCs and Net Food Importing Developing Countries (NFDICs) which aims to improve market access and reduce trade barriers so struggling countries can access food imports more easily and at lower costs to:
  - a. Improve food security by increasing the availability of food in LDCs and NFDICs;
  - Help LDCs and NFIDCs participate more effectively in trade, thus building their economies and stimulating economic activity with the goal of poverty reduction and increase in food security;
  - Suggest for Member States both those that have implemented restrictions and those contemplating future ones, to refrain from impacting the proposals laid out in this resolution;
- 27. Endorses the implementation of environmentally sustainable and innovative agricultural practices to adapt to climate change through the utilization of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration program to stress the importance of the protection of and restoration of ecosystems and:
  - a. Replacing the use of chemical fertilizers with sustainable compost to lower greenhouse gas production;
  - b. Investing in renewable energy sources;
- 28. Recommends Member States to establish a World Food Bank (WFB) as a central reserve for agricultural products as a component of the World Food Programme (WFP), in addition to the WFP's Climate Service Programme to ensure that agricultural resources are delivered effectively and sustainably to nations in need:
  - a. Through which reserve food resources will be available to Member States that are in a
    declared food emergency as defined by the parameters set by the Integrated Food
    Security Phase Classification (ICPINFO) and the WFP (all countries that meet this
    standard regardless of previous UN sanctions are eligible for this aid);
  - To which Member States who are considered to be developing, based on their Gross Domestic Product (GDP), are able to donate agricultural resources in exchange for a portion of their United Nations dues;

- Through which agricultural resources can be distributed via a network of regional offices, ensuring that all nations are able to easily and efficiently tap into the WFB, in addition to allowing these;
- 29. Calls for further investment and research into Multifunctional Territorialized Agri-Food Systems including community gardens to localize/regionalize food production, distribution, and consumption as an alternative to industrial agriculture that combines multifunctionality, governance, and sustainable practices for self-sufficient food systems by:
  - Taking inspiration from the Blue Economy Strategy which represents a holistic approach
    using sustainable ocean resources that helps to address food insecurity by promoting
    sustainable fisheries and aquacultures;
  - b. Considering community gardens to be implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in less developed countries for an increase in food production that lowers prices for production and transportation costs while increasing vegetable production for self-sufficiency through:
    - Inviting volunteers from countries with experience in farming to support these least developed countries by providing their support and resources to help with gardens and farmers' markets;
    - Recommending members of least developed countries to volunteer their time in contributing to these community gardens in exchange for educational courses and food;
- 30. Encourages international cooperation between Member States to bolster innovation and research, through enhancing connections amongst Member States with international crop development centers, such as the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), to access crops, and increase knowledge sharing, facilitating marketing outlets of indigenous seed companies in remote areas through encouraging the establishment of a seed stockist network;
- 31. Strongly advises all Member States to have access to labs that help focus on testing and scaling up sustainable agricultural technologies such as precision farming tools, eco-friendly pesticides, and water-saving irrigation systems on a global scale;
- 32. Invites UN databases such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) to provide data sharing on nutrition, agriculture practices, and sustainable production methods to benefit all Member States;
- 33. Suggests that Member States take inspiration from the United Nations Decade of Family Farming plan and potential collaborations with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to promote a sustainable bridgeway between family farmers and tech-based companies for any Member States who needs access to particular resources through measures such as:
  - Ensuring access to innovative international labs, through funding, capacity building, and policy support, to serve as a bridge between family farmers and Member States with the help of NGOs as well as tech companies;

- An annual summit meeting during the ECOSOC Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations that discusses developing and more developed countries alike to discuss the use of private enterprises and private individual countries that ECOSOC voluntarily helps establish and expand;
- 34. Recommends that ECOSOC facilitates partnerships between the High-Level Committee on Management's (HLCM) Task Force on Artificial Intelligence (AI) by collaborating with private corporations and organizations who have previously designed AI technology that focuses on revolutionizing food systems and bolstering agricultural development by creating an open access knowledge sharing system for Member Stated that educates on:
  - Utilizing Al technology to sort safe from unsafe food from landfills, waste disposal sites, and waste management facilities, as well as supermarkets, restaurants, and other industries;
  - Improving agricultural production through the use of Al capabilities such as, but not limited to monitoring water usage and utilization, soil health, and the optimization of farming site selection.



**Committee:** Commission for Social Development

**Topic:** Social Inclusion of the Elderly

The Commission for Social Development,

Fully aware of the need to ensure access to goods, services, and meaningful possibilities in social and public life for all people, regardless of age,

Concerned that while medical care is a primary necessity for the elderly population, according to the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2021, 4.5 billion people were not fully covered by essential health services.

Guided by the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) in which recommendations for policymaking that ensure supportive environments for the elderly are established,

Recognizing the WHO's Global Strategy and Action Plan on Ageing and Health, which reiterates the role of preventative care and long-term action plans to facilitate age-friendly environments and lifestyles,

Recalling the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing and General Assembly Resolution 37/51, which focused on training and education, health and security, among other categories for the elderly,

Alarmed by the emerging scarcity of global healthcare workers expected to reach an all-time low of 15 million by 2023 as stated by the WHO,

*Emphasizing* the imperative role of SDG 10 in furthering both accessibility and mobility in public spaces to accommodate the diverse needs of the elderly population,

Reiterating the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) report, Health Inequalities in Old Age, which underscores the importance of research and development within healthcare services targeted at the aging population,

- Encourages Member States to facilitate cross-collaboration with a coalition of non-governmental organizations that can coordinate palliative care and social integration for adults over the age of 65;
- Welcomes the implementation of policies that include social inclusion of the elderly in topics
  regarding healthcare and accessibility, which could use existing framework in the MIPAA, meant
  to improve the quality and standard of living of elderly people through supporting their social
  activities;
- 3. *Invites* Member States to voluntarily donate to a global fund under the UNDESA to fund research on healthcare targeted toward elderly persons;
- 4. Further encourages the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to implement a family-centric caregiving initiative providing education on care for relatives who are informal caregivers;

- Recommends Member States implement a program tailored towards accessibility which focuses on adapting public spaces, architecture, transportation, and products to the requirements and needs of all citizens in an inclusive manner as seen in the Accessibility Plus Programme;
- 6. *Further recommends* the UNDESA to establish workshops to facilitate training of elderly persons in relation to technology including:
  - a. Online pre-recorded interactive trainings on a UNDESA maintained website;
  - b. In-person trainings at volunteer higher-learning institutions;
- 7. Encourages Member States to implement systems, such as the Promotion Board of the Long-Term Care Systems for the Elderly (LTC), which gives way to the creation of diverse care facilities, allows for the incorporations of universal design principles, and supports the improvement of accessibility for the elderly through retrofitting existing infrastructure;
- 8. Supports the establishment of the Elderly Leadership Project, a programme facilitated by ECOSOC, which will allow the commission to collaborate with Member States directly, to formulate and implement programs designed to allow elderly people to become more involved in the policy-making processes related to health care.



Committee: Commission for Social Development

**Topic:** Social Inclusion of the Elderly

The Commission for Social Development,

Acknowledging the eighteen principles listed in the United Nations Principles for Older Persons including their dignity, participation, and the provision of care for them,

Deeply appreciative of the creation of the International Day of Older Persons on 1 October by the United Nations General Assembly in 1990,

Recognizing the statement from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that no group should be left behind,

*Dismayed* that according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 773 million elderly people are illiterate globally,

Alarmed that 14.2 percent of individuals over the age of 65 live in relative income poverty according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD),

Expressing appreciation for the United Nations Department of Social and Economic Affairs World Social Report 2023: Leaving No One Behind In An Aging World which highlights health, economics, education, and employment of the elderly,

Dismayed that 74 percent of people over the age of 50 have lost their employment due to age according to the International Association for Human Resources Information Management (IAHRIM),

Remembering the preexisting knowledge and wisdom of older persons, and the desire of many of them to utilize this wisdom for the good of humanity.

*Expressing* concern that 300 million people over the age of 65 are excluded from essential long-term care due to global shortage of healthcare professionals,

- 1. Desires the implementation of schools and classes set up by Member States to provide education to the elderly by:
  - Setting up programs or classes in pre-established schools dedicated to life skills and resources to benefit the elderly as they age, such as how to use social security systems;
  - b. Providing classes between elderly persons and younger persons with the purpose of teaching the elderly about new technologies to help them stay informed;
  - Establishing Universities of the Third Age, which are schools for those over the age of 50, ensuring equitable access to education through in-person and digital classrooms providing awareness of available community resources;
  - d. Encouraging universities and trade schools to abolish any old-age-based restrictions on admittance;

- Invites Member States to use the International Day of Older Persons as a celebration to create a connection between older generations and younger generations through games, activities, and story sharing;
- 3. Encourages Member States to implement programs, colloquially called "returnships", which allow older persons to use the knowledge they have gained over years of professional and life experience to benefit the rising generation of people and organizations;
- 4. Discourages wrongful dismissal or refusal of employment based on age;
- 5. *Urges* the international community to allow for financial and physical assistance for geriatric support tailored to the individual needs and desires by:
  - a. Ensuring adequate access to mental health and psychiatric care professionals;
  - Addressing the physical needs of those who have partially or completely lost ability to care for themselves due to injury, illness, disability, or age by providing them access to care services;
- 6. *Encourages* Member States to provide or increase elderly individuals' minimum retirement pensions allowing for economic security and self-sufficiency;
- 7. Recommends Member States to adopt a new program collaborating with UNICEF's Wisdom Project or similar programs that will act as a platform between the elderly persons and the younger generation by:
  - a. Having elderly persons act as teachers for classes that discuss the discrimination and struggles of elderly persons;
  - b. Informing children in schools on how to treat elderly people with respect;
  - c. Teaching young persons about the risks of obesity, smoking, and alcohol consumption as they are the main health issues of older generations.



**Committee:** Commission for Social Development

**Topic:** Social Inclusion of the Elderly

The Commission for Social Development,

Guided by the Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing 2002 about the Madrid International Plan on Ageing (MIPAA),

Recognizing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) as a foundational document in the pursuit of equality and justice for all, yet acknowledging its failure to explicitly address the rights and needs of the elderly,

Advocating for the strengthening of Resolution 54/26, section 53 of the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), which focuses on the disproportionate effects of armed conflicts that lead to violence against older persons,

Reaffirming the UN Principles for Older Persons resolution 46/91 which provides a framework for the rights of older persons that includes their independence, access to care, participation in society, self-fulfillment, and dignity,

Considering that Article 18(4) of the African Charter makes specific provisions for the protection of the rights of Older Persons,

Cognizant of SDG 3 which ensures healthy lives and promotes well-being for all ages,

Expressing concern for the inadequacy of healthcare research in which only 20% of associate degree nursing programs report a course on geriatrics and often excludes older persons from drug and treatment trials.

Recognizing the indispensable role that financial security plays in safeguarding the dignity, well-being, and independence of older persons, and acknowledging the moral and societal obligation to support an environment in which all individuals can lead secure and fulfilling lives in their senior years, without the fear of poverty or financial hardship.

Deeply concerned by the challenges faced by the elderly globally, including social exclusion, ageism, limited healthcare access, financial insecurity, and loneliness, which threaten their well-being and human rights,

Recognizing regional frameworks on the rights of older persons such as the ASEAN Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Ageing: Empowering Older Persons in ASEAN (2015) which emphasizes the need of advancement in areas such as health, social, and economic,

Acknowledges that according to the National Institute of Health, 19 percent of people aged between 65 and 74 are continuing to work as a result of poor retirement planning, which emphasizes the need for financial literacy to be taught in the early stages of one's working life,

Recognizing the rights of older to have access to care and support in settings and all living spaces

Recognizing that violence and abuse are human rights violations that can happen in both private and public settings,

Recognizing the need for the development of national policies to ensure all forms of older person abuse are identified, defined, investigated, and have legal prosecution systems,

- Recommends Member States to recognize the social and economic impacts of its aging
  population by implementing regional projects in a global context influenced by programs such as
  but not limited to the Elderly Support Program (YADES) funds projects by municipalities that
  provide community and home-care services to older adults;
- 2. *Suggests* to the Economic and Social Council the establishment of an effective framework for elderly people's rights protection that will be focused on the following areas:
  - a. Social inclusion, protection, and security;
  - b. Financial autonomy;
  - c. Healthcare;
- 3. Encourages Member States to work toward the implementation of institutes and resources that will have the objective of training open to all ages, especially elderly who face discrimination and hardship both within education and in their access to it, in order to achieve job inclusion;
- 4. Recommends Member States internally reform pension systems to better suit their older persons populations by utilizing pension reform toolkits similar to the World Bank's Pensions Reform Options Simulation Toolkit which:
  - a. Facilitate the modeling of different pension systems to analyze how changes affect different demographics;
  - Allow for the setting and changing of different variables such as demographics, economic conditions, and existing pension parameters in order to accurately predict how policy changes will impact pension systems;
- 5. *Suggests* Member States consider the lives of their elderly populations through periods of conflicts with great care by:
  - a. Emphasizing their specialized protections as called for by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which include medical treatment regardless of age and nationality, and assistance in relocation efforts:
  - b. Advising Member States to actively issue warnings to regions with high elderly populations and provide assistance in relocation efforts;
- 6. *Urges* Member States to implement comprehensive policies aimed at ensuring the financial security of older individuals, promoting their well-being and dignity, through:
  - a. The development and maintenance of equitable, sustainable pension systems that
    provide adequate financial support to older individuals, taking into account the diversity of
    economic contexts and the need for flexibility in pension contributions and benefits;

- Enhancing access to affordable, high-quality healthcare services for older individuals, including preventive care, to reduce the financial burden of health expenses in old age and support a healthy and dignified life;
- 7. *Urges* Member States to prioritize the incorporation of older persons' values, wishes, and preferences into decision-making processes;
- 8. *Encourages* the establishment and enhancement of support services aimed at facilitating older persons' decision-making processes, including the implementation of safeguards to ensure the preservation of their agency and autonomy;
- Acknowledges the diversity among older persons and underscores the need for policies and services to be inclusive and sensitive to the unique experiences, values, and care needs of individuals within this demographic;
- 10. *Encourages* governments to conduct thorough assessments of the impact of policies and decisions, particularly of those based on age, on older persons, to ensure equitable outcomes;
- 11. Urges Member States to take deliberate actions to promote equality for older persons, including reducing barriers to access advancements in information and communications technology and providing opportunities for digital literacy learning;
- 12. *Encourages* Member States to adopt policies and programs aimed at eliminating ableism, fostering stronger intergenerational relationships, and building more cohesive communities and societies;
- 13. Calls for mechanisms that enable older persons to participate in policy development and ensure their access to effective and enforceable remedies in cases of age discrimination;
- 14. Affirms the right of older persons to work, emphasizing the importance of maintaining avenues for employment and combating age-related barriers in the workforce;
- 15. Suggests to Member States the integration of a series of general guidelines into public educational frameworks on economic savings, such as those relating to pensions, so that people can refer to them when they begin their working life, ensuring that;
  - a. Concepts relating to saving and investment can be understood from an early age;
  - b. The need to establish a long-term retirement plan can be emphasized;
  - c. The financial risks associated with growing age can be understood for proper preparation to occur.



Committee: Commission for Social Development

**Topic:** Social Inclusion of the Elderly

The Commission for Social Development,

Recommending the international community follow the example of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG) and identify possible gaps and best practices to address ageism through the lens of education,

Observing that according to the World Health Organization (WHO), about 20 percent of adults aged 60 and older globally experience mental health conditions,

Noting with appreciation that according to the WHO, 83 percent of countries have national legislation to combat ageism,

Aware of the number of people aged 65 years or older worldwide is projected to more than double, rising from 761 million in 2021 to 1.6 billion in 2050 according to the United Nations World Social Report 2023,

Concerned by the rapid rate increase in the population of those above 65 years compared to those below this age according to the World Population Prospects of 2022,

Fully alarmed that according to the WHO, 1 in 6 people face some form of elder abuse,

Cognizant of the Global Alliance for the Rights of Older Persons, which implements policy supports for older persons such as anti-discrimination laws, social security, and pension schemes,

Acknowledging the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing, (2021-2030) a global collaboration worked on by the WHO aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals, to improve the lives of older persons, their families, and their communities,

- Encourages Member States to partner with NGOs or independently subsidize national educational programs that provide resources to older persons who are interested in re-entering the workforce by:
  - Supporting local, community workshops that provide informational sessions on successful resumes, cover letters, mock interview practices, basic technology skills to access online resources, and navigating modern communication tools;
  - b. Providing grants to fund scholarships that enable older people to return to academic university institutions to increase social mobility to higher-paying jobs;
- 2. *Emphasizes* the concept of active aging, encouraging seniors to remain physically, mentally, and socially active in their communities through various initiatives and programs;
- Suggests the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to revisit the benefits of programs such as Amarchay, a support network for older persons and people with disabilities that evaluates and works with resources available in local communities;

- 4. *Recommends* ECOSOC to consider supporting more thorough research projects about the benefits of improved healthcare:
  - a. Encouraging collaboration with organizations such as WHO's Global Campaign against ageism and better understand the psychological biases for this cause;
  - Acknowledging the progress of the Healthy Ageing Collaborative, which aims to add life
    to the years of individual older populations through the framework of multisectoral and
    multi-stakeholder partnering;
- 5. *Encourages* the Member States to collaborate with the WHO to form a national strategy for older people by:
  - Emphasizing the importance of promoting independence, autonomy, and social connectedness among seniors through community-based programs, healthcare services, and social welfare interventions;
  - b. Setting up regular health check-ups, screenings, vaccinations, and lifestyle modifications to prevent or manage chronic conditions;
  - c. Ensuring efficient transportation during the medical appointments;
- 6. *Urges* Member States to collaborate with UNDESA and UNDP to invest in infrastructure projects aimed at enhancing social inclusion and well-being of the elderly population, including but not limited to:
  - a. Encouraging Member States to allocate adequate funding and resources towards the implementation of infrastructure projects targeted at addressing the needs of the elderly, ensuring sustainability and effectiveness of these initiatives in the long term;
  - b. Emphasizing the importance of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the impact of infrastructure projects and providing regular reporting and dissemination of findings to facilitate knowledge-sharing and continuous improvement;
  - Recommending the establishment of accessible healthcare facilities tailored to the needs
    of the elderly, with a particular emphasis on providing free healthcare services for
    individuals aged 70 and above;
  - d. Redressing gender disparities in inheritance laws, particularly those about land and productive resources, to safeguard the rights of elderly women and widows, in line with efforts to promote gender equality and empowerment;
- 7. *Underlines* the need for ECOSOC to develop the Elderly Leadership Program (ELP) where Member States could:
  - a. Promote and implement policies that bridge the gap of communication across all ages by hearing from the elderly directly;
  - b. Support the elderly in decision-making and encourage older persons to become active members of civil society;
  - c. Encourage listening and understanding of the stories of the older persons while embracing

the history of their country;

8. Introduces Member States to the idea of promoting age-friendly environments that facilitate the active participation and inclusion of older adults by creating accessible public spaces, transportation options, housing designs, community engagement, intergenerational activities, peer support groups and volunteer opportunities.