

Documentation of the work of the **Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** NMUN simulation\*



NMUN•NY 2024 Session 1 24 – 28 March 2024

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# **Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**

#### **Committee Staff**

Director	Matthias Burtscheidt	
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Chair	Hannah Röcker	

### **Agenda**

- 1. Combatting Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine
- 2. Empowering Youth to Accelerate Development

## **Resolutions adopted by the Committee**

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
ECOSOC/1/1	Combatting Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine	36 in favor, 10 against, 4 abstentions
ECOSOC/1/2	Combatting Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine	40 in favor, 5 against, 5 abstentions
ECOSOC/1/3	Combatting Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine	36 in favor, 10 against, 4 abstentions
ECOSOC/1/4	Combatting Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine	35 in favor, 11 against, 4 abstentions

### **Summary Report**

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- 1. Combatting Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine
- 2. Empowering Youth to Accelerate Development

The session was attended by representatives of 50 Member States and 1 Observer.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda 1, 2, beginning discussion on the topic of "Combating Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine." By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of seven proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics including, the establishment of programs and conferences for sharing best practices and different approaches to tackle drought and flood-induced famine risks, sharing and extending technological approaches to farming in rural regions, research into and development of urban farming, and approaches to reduce famine and food insecurity in conflict areas. On Tuesday, the delegates initiated two mergers, and on Wednesday, one merger was initiated, showing a willingness to ensure that the body reached a consensus whilst taking into consideration each Member States' pressing issues, and limitations. The tone of the committee on Monday and Tuesday was collaborative with Member States working to create solutions that addressed various issues important to them.

On Wednesday, four draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, all of which had seven unfriendly amendments. Out of the seven amendments, the body adopted three of them, one adopted for ECOSOC1/1 and two for ECOSOC/1/4. The committee adopted four resolutions following voting procedure. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including addressing the causes of food insecurity, food speculation and its impacts on food prices, and the protection of persons affected by conflict from starvation. All draft resolutions were voted on through a recorded vote, and all were adopted as resolutions.



Code: ECOSOC/1/1

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Topic: Combating Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations and the right to food as reiterated in General Assembly Resolution 74/198 "The right to food" (2023),

Acknowledging the strong connection between food insecurity, poverty, and individual health,

Aware of the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of food insecurity,

Deeply concerned about the recent development of the increasing number of people affected by severe hunger,

Emphasizing the importance of enhancing small-scale farmers' productivity and food redistribution,

Stressing the adverse effects of climate change on the livelihoods of individuals belonging to vulnerable communities dependent on small-scale farming,

Recognizing that food security needs to be addressed through global collaboration and has to create winwin outcomes,

Recognizing the Right to Food as stated in Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) as a substantial part of the right to an adequate standard of living,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015), "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 2 (zero hunger),

Welcoming the cooperation amongst the developing world including working groups such as the G77 plus China as well as North-South cooperation,

Affirming the Geneva Package (2022) by the World Trade Organization, which provides trade-related solutions to allow Member States undergoing humanitarian crises to seek relief,

Calling attention to the global support of investing in climate-safe and sustainable food systems with the adoption of the 28th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28) Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action (2023),

Reminding developed countries of their responsibility to enable developing countries to become self-sufficient through technical and financial means, as articulated in the Loss and Damage Fund (2023), adopted at COP28,

Recognizing with satisfaction the United Nations Technology Facilitation Mechanism discussed in 2023 that emphasized technological needs, the impact of ever-changing technologies on sustainable development, capacity building, scientific cooperation, and innovation,

Having considered the commitment recently reaffirmed by the General Assembly resolution 76/264 (2022), highlighting the current food crisis and calling on the international community to provide immediate assistance to affected Member States,

Recognizing that the emerging fertilizer crisis encompassing fertilizer shortages, a disrupted fertilizer market, and rising fertilizer prices, increases the risk of food insecurity by inflating food prices and threatening crop yields,

Expressing concern about a potential distortion of food prices by food speculation,

Concerned about the effects of climate change on the availability of water for agricultural use,

*Emphasizing* the importance of climate-resilient agricultural practices, nutritional enhancement of crops, and sustainable farming techniques in addressing the challenges posed by climate change and ensuring food security for all,

- 1. Recommends the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) create a detailed report on the current state of agricultural technology in each region or Member State as a basis for further allocation and the need for technological support with a special focus on:
  - a. A comprehensive understanding of the climatic and geographical conditions of each region or Member State;
  - b. The appropriate technologies and knowledge to foster sustainable agricultural production in respective regions;
  - c. Early identification of trends in each region's or Member State's climate that may have a detrimental impact on farming and agricultural production, as well as change the future technological needs of Member States;
- 2. Recommends the FAO evaluate the condition of pre-existing educational programs targeting local farmers, ranchers, fishing communities, government officials, and additionally concerned parties that will:
  - a. Specifically apply to the current condition of small-scale farming communities and rural areas in each region or Member State;
  - b. Tailor its focus to implement policy recommendations in each Member State;
  - c. Better summarize the current inefficiencies and successes of each Member State's agrifood system;
- 3. Calls for an annual global conference on the effective use of new and emerging technologies for food production and agriculture, such as artificial intelligence, specifically focused on supporting small farmers, discussing the latest advancements in the respective technologies, best practices, and how those benefit especially developing countries, and inviting local, regional, and national governments, as well as non-governmental organizations (NGO), academic organizations, and private sector companies to attend;
- 4. Recommends that this conference creates working groups on the collaboration of Member State authorities, private actors, NGOs, and other stakeholders, on the development of vertical farming

technologies in regions with economically, ecologically, and socially deteriorating circumstances, on the enhancement of resilience and sustainability of regional agrifood systems, on the implementation of methods for storing food to avoid waste through modern storage techniques and on technologies for measuring environmental factors, and on the use of irrigation systems as well as research on resilient crops;

- 5. Recommends the FAO to institute annual reporting on the progress of technology implementation in agriculture utilizing indicators it has specifically determined to be appropriate;
- 6. Encourages Member States to review existing or implement new policies that combine agricultural production with new employment opportunities to enhance the productivity of small-scale rural farmers which include:
  - a. Initiating a virtuous cycle of productivity gains in agricultural output by freeing up capacities for upskilling;
  - Vocational practices and entrepreneurial activities outside of agriculture that allow farmers and local inhabitants employed in agriculture to channel different income streams;
- 7. Strongly advises Member States to bring the benefits of scientific and technological innovation to farmers through national and international programs designed to facilitate trade relations and trade structures such as the work of the United Nations Office on South-South Cooperation and North-South cooperation;
- 8. Appeals for the continuation and further investment in regional initiatives and programs, specifically with those of developing nations as well as the Global Development Initiative, to further develop, expand, and improve infrastructure amongst rural communities within the Member States, including access to electricity, internet services, and agricultural technology, to promote food security;
- 9. Calls all Member States to review existing national strategies on food security including the assistance of small and rural farmers, the employment of new and emerging technologies, the mitigation of economic shocks on food markets, the reduction and removal of trade barriers in food exports and imports, and the maximization of land, and share insights or implement new policies that consider the insights and best practices of Member States;
- 10. Recommends an increase in multilateral and bilateral agreements between Member States focused on the provision of technology related to the alleviation and mitigation of malnutrition through:
  - a. The provision of basic and highly demanded foods containing nutrients necessary for healthy human growth, such as grains and rice;
  - b. The distribution of medical equipment demanded by each Member State's pressured medical issues;
  - c. The improvement of agri-food transportation and delivery services to local buyers;
- 11. *Encourages* local NGOs to provide and improve education in agricultural technologies that are relevant to Member States' geographical contexts and target marginalized and underrepresented groups, such as women and girls, youth, and indigenous populations;

- 12. Encourages Member States to develop government-funded public websites that provide nutrition advice and food-related medical information to ensure widespread availability of information, collaborating with the World Health Organization to ensure everyone has access to adequate and nutritious food and water;
- 13. Suggests that Member States evaluate their respective land use policies, both statutory and customary land rights to maximize areas designated for agriculture, including construction permits, resource harvesting, land tenure, and private property systems;
- 14. Underlines with concern the importance of addressing the emerging fertilizer crisis by:
  - a. Encouraging the Group of Twenty (G20) to enhance global fertilizer monitoring through its Agricultural Market Information System;
  - b. Advising Member States to increase their fertilizer production capacities if possible;
  - Calling on the FAO to research methods to more effectively use fertilizer and share the
    insights with Member States, in order to reduce fertilizer needs and mitigate the negative
    impact of inadequate fertilizer use on the environment;
- 15. Decides to conduct a global, large-scale study on the potential effects of food speculation on food prices, to disseminate the findings to Member States and relevant UN specialized agencies, and to schedule a session into the annual ECOSOC agenda for the review of the outcomes and exploration of potential measures against detrimental effects of food speculation;
- 16. Reiterates its call to Member States to share information and technology regarding effective water use in agriculture through rain and groundwater management, desalination, and efficient irrigation practices, and to continue to work together with organizations such as Elemental Water Makers to achieve sustainable water use in creative ways;
- 17. *Recommends* the FAO intensify its assistance to Member States in developing and distributing seeds of drought-resistant and flood-resistant crops.



Code: ECOSOC1/2

Committee: The Economic and Social Council

Topic: Combating Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) ensures adequate access to food,

Reaffirming the importance of fulfilling Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 (zero hunger),

Recognizing ECOSOC's regional commissions and their ability to convene international conferences,

Keeping in mind the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1976) and its Article 11,

Deeply concerned with the data collected by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations showing that 2.4 billion people experienced moderate or severe food insecurity across the world, and 735 million of those people experience extreme hunger specifically,

Mindful of the detrimental effects of climate change in relation to indigenous and other vulnerable communities,

Calling attention to the fact that according to the World Bank's document 'Agriculture and Rural Development', three-quarters of the world's poor live in rural areas, most of them farmers, and increasing their productivity would greatly help to improve the issue of food insecurity,

*Underlining* the important work of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) on sustainable cultivation and adapting to climate change,

Emphasizing that the World Food Programme (WFP) has been supporting smallholder farmers (SHF) with the Smallholder Agricultural Market Support (SAMS) which made significant achievements in over 40 countries,

Recognizing the need for more communication across countries' rural communities and ECOSOC's regional commissions in the spirit of SDG 17 (partnership for the goals),

Acknowledging the need to further the best practices for technological assistance and sustainable methods in diverse agricultural communities,

Considering the Global Parliamentary Summit (2023) in which successful practices and examples of innovative legislation ensuring the right to adequate food, agrifood systems, and food security were discussed and from which the Global Parliamentary Pact against Hunger and Malnutrition was adopted,

Alarmed that the WFP is in the midst of a historic funding crisis that has already cut the size of scope of all operations,

Recognizing that, according to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, 55% of the population lives in urban areas today, that this number is expected to increase to 68% by 2050, and that 79 % of all food produced is destined for consumption in cities,

- Expresses its belief that sharing knowledge is crucial for the emancipation of both rural and urban communities most affected by food insecurity and the risk of famine, enabling them to be self-sufficient and thereby mitigate the effects of global crises;
- 2. Recommends implementing an innovative online platform, hereafter named "Reliable Tomorrow", for sharing best practices coordinating relevant experts and authorities within Member States, up to and including government agencies, universities, organizations, and private sector corporations:
  - Acknowledging the deferral of responsibility to national governments for the further dissemination of Reliable Tomorrow;
  - Solemnly affirming each citizen has the opportunity to contribute to the platform by sharing their practices with a special committee referenced in operative clause three to approve or reject the applications;
  - c. Ensuring Reliable Tomorrow will be free, open, and accessible to all global citizens and organizations via the internet;
  - d. Suggesting the FAO to host this online platform;
- 3. Calls upon Member States to aid in coordination amongst ECOSOC regional commissions to oversee an annual conference to discuss localized issues of rural farming communities in need of technical assistance in the pursuit of contemporary agricultural methods in order to coordinate best practices to ensure future success in rural agricultural communities by:
  - a. Recommending proportionate representation of nations in the Global South at conferences similar to the one proposed (such as the model for representation exemplified by Conference of the Parties 28 and the World Food Summit);
  - b. Recognizing a lack of funding available to Least Developed Countries which has historically made conducting research, collecting data, and transporting delegates internationally difficult for such nations;
- 4. Implores Member States and entities in the private sector to increase funding:
  - Due to a lack of funding underdeveloped and developing nations struggle to efficiently implement effective agricultural methods and machinery to strengthen their localized market;
  - To WFP to expand SAMS which gives technical assistance, training, infrastructure, and a platform designed to facilitate the exchange of information and resources between SHF and market actors to strengthen SHF's ability to sell their production;
  - c. To the IFAD to reduce the effect of global disturbances, especially on indigenous communities from global disturbances;
- 5. Recommends Member States to develop and implement national and local policies coming from regional parliamentary initiatives that support the sustainable development of urban agriculture such as:
  - a. Allowing a minimum of space in every neighborhood dedicated to urban farming;
  - b. Giving incentives to cities, private companies for the implementation of urban farming projects;

- 6. Recommends Member States to enable local farmers to produce enough nutritious and sustainable crops by giving access to technologies by providing them financial and technical support and thereby help rural and urban development by:
  - The introduction of resilient crops, as smart farming, can automatically analyze meteorological conditions using the Internet of Things (IoT) so that farmers may grow plants without worrying about weather conditions with self-sufficiency;
  - b. Other technologies which could focus on vertical farming, rooftop gardens, community gardens, aquaculture, pots farming, permaculture, drones, remote sensors, and greenhouses, which reduce water waste;
- 7. Encourages governments to implement educational programs, workshops, and campaigns built by trained personnel targeting children and students spanning from elementary to academia, businesses of all levels, from local to international, and the general public offered online, in community centers, concerning:
  - a. The importance of a balanced alimentation that includes every essential nutrient and methods to achieve it:
  - b. The different forms that food waste can take in daily life as well as in corporations, supermarkets, and restaurants as well as their consequences;
  - c. Agricultural techniques and methods to plant and grow foods reduce waste, to compost;
- 8. Suggests Member States to implement legislative measures and regulations that recognize the role of individuals, groups, and farmers, promoting a sense of collective effort to actively combat food waste by:
  - a. Recommending the removal of legal obstacles in Member States that disallow companies, farms, and production sites from giving wasted food to those who need it;
  - b. Suggesting governments introduce incentives to be given to companies that reduce food waste through increasing efficiency and preservation in the supply chain and through donations to recognized charitable organizations.



Code: ECOSOC/1/3

**Committee:** The Economic and Social Council Plenary **Topic:** Combatting Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine

The Economic and Social Council Plenary,

Acknowledging Article 25(1) of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948) and the intrinsic rights of all individuals to have access to adequate food that is crucial for their health and well-being,

Alarmed by the reports of the Committee on World Food Security which states that more than 800 million people went hungry in 2021 despite a reported surplus able to feed 10 billion people,

Recalling that famine is both a cause and a result of conflict and deeply concerned by the number of people facing catastrophic hunger, particularly those facing barriers to the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Recalling also the principles laid out within United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/1 (2015), "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015),

Reaffirming the commitment to the elimination of hunger globally as laid out in SDG 2 (zero hunger),

Noting the importance of the nutritional aspects of food and particularly that the 1996 World Food Summit states that food security requires access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets dietary needs for an active and healthy life,

Keeping in mind refugees and displaced persons fleeing from crises as a result of conflict around the globe and the subsequent food insecurity,

Having considered the importance of coordinating responses to crises in food security such as those caused by conflict and acute natural disasters,

Commending the work of regional governmental organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the European Union (EU), and the African Union (AU) in establishing contingency plans for responding to acute food crises,

Recognizing the importance of programs like Nutrition North Canada in delivering essential nutritional support to marginalized and geographically isolated local groups,

*Underscoring* the *Strategy for Food and Nutritional Security* (2015) implemented by the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries to help promote food security and eliminate government inefficiencies,

Aware of the widening global gender gap in food insecurity, as shown by the report "Global gendered impacts of the Ukraine crisis on energy access and food security and nutrition" of 2022 by UN Women,

Acknowledging the mandates of and functioning systems established by international trade agreements such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agriculture Agreement, North American Free Trade

Agreement, Central American-Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement, the European Union, Arab Cooperation Council, and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership,

*Emphasizing* the need to reinforce and increase outputs of agricultural businesses and practices which are essential to the global food supply chain framework,

Convinced that the challenges associated with hunger are intertwined with global trade and supply chains and further exacerbated by the disruptions caused by the invasion of Ukraine,

Reaffirming the importance of protecting biodiversity to supporting healthy ecosystems by preserving the genetic diversity of agriculture and livestock in order to promote resilience against environmental stresses such as disease and pests, facilitate water purification, and contribute to the formation of organic matter in the soil, and recalling SDG 14 (life below water), which seeks to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development and SDG 15 (life on land), which seeks to project, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems,

Reminding Member States of the fact that starvation should never be used as a weapon during times of conflict,

Recognizing SDG 4 (quality education) and the efforts made by several Red Cross regional sub-divisions such as the American division, to educate its population on the different food-insecurity challenges they may face,

Observing the concept of "agribusiness", a fusion of the words "agriculture" and "business", as the economic sector related to farming and farming-related commerce and trade, which encompasses all of the necessary components for inserting agricultural resources and products into the market, as well as the production, processing, and distribution of food, and acknowledging the status of agribusiness as an economic industry that can affect as much as 50% of a nation's domestic economy as stipulated by the World Bank,

*Stressing* the importance of strengthening relations between governments and NGO partners to foster more systematic and effective trade networks,

Approving the work of the Ocean Conservancy, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and all NGOs that work to protect and promote the ocean's biodiversity for the purposes of securing crucial fishing and fish farming zones, such as by establishing and maintaining Marine Protected Areas (MRAs), collecting data and identifying threats, and develop conservation strategies including monitoring and public awareness and education,

Believing that the interests of the global economy can shift from that of the predominant influence of highly developed nations to a dynamic multipolar community of joint multilateral support,

Emphasizing the need for a comprehensive framework inspired by the UDHR which can provide a host of new guarantees and responsibilities of the individual the basis for a normative global compact grounded in sustainable practices to meet the challenges of ending hunger and more broadly, the terms by which humanity can persevere and prosper in the 21st century,

Cognizant of the current international food trade system, predominantly led by large, developed nations, has increased the vulnerability of developing Member States food systems and creates unsafe factors, such as global natural crises and geopolitical instability,

Recognizing the health-related components of trade in food commodities across international borders,

Noting with approval the existence of the harmonious and complementary global values of 'Mottainai', 'Langar', 'Ubuntu', 'Aloha', 'Buen vivir', 'Dàojì', 'Ahimsa', 'Sobriété Heureuse'', inter alia,

Referring to the term "Public Good" as an economic concept which denotes goods as non-rivalrous and non-excludable.

- Encourages Member States to convene an international conference with the High-Level Political Forum and United Nations Environment Assembly to renew the values that have developed since the passing of the UDHR to produce a new declaration introducing an updated normative framework based on the values of fairness, solidarity, sustainability, universalism, nondiscrimination, and a minimum provision of food as an entitlement from Member States;
- 2. Promotes the establishment of an international conference under the purview of the United Nations Development Programme, where Member States and regional non-governmental organizations can share their experiences and innovations surrounding food technology and access with particular focus on:
  - a. Developing efficient food distribution and food storage practices and technologies;
  - b. Maintaining climate-resilient infrastructure and pathways to ensure the reliable delivery of food and humanitarian aid;
  - c. Sharing knowledge surrounding efficient food production practices and effective methods of implementing biodiversity in growing practices;
- Decides to hold an annual forum on preventive actions to mitigate food shortage and agricultural losses that can be caused by disasters and conflicts and invites all Member States and organizations, such as FAO and WFP, to share technologies of data collection to expand Early Warning Systems and increase investment in pre-arranged financial resourcesSDG for anticipatory action;
- 4. Establishes an ad-hoc advisory body that encourages affected Member States and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to discuss and implement civilian safety features taking into consideration SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions) and SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals), such as more humanitarian corridors in conflict zones which will allow safe passage of necessary supplies, such as food, to those directly affected by the conflict;
- Recommends that Member States call upon civil society organizations within their respective regions to prioritize the funding of the World Food Programme in its efforts to provide food to the most vulnerable people unable to physically and economically access safe, nutritious, sufficient food;
- 6. Encourages Member States to implement policies, modeling the Nutrition North Canada approach, which entails surrounding adequate food access to indigenous and isolated groups through a collaborative effort between local food-related stakeholders;
- 7. *Invites* Member States to implement policies on the national and regional level to model the Strategy for Food and Nutritional Security by:
  - a. Designating coordinated and concise governmental structures to eliminate inefficiencies;

- b. Welcoming immediate and sustainable support for marginalized groups such as women and children:
- c. Requesting more investment in agricultural sectors as well as secure access to natural resources, with a specific focus on small-scale farmers;
- 8. *Invites* all Member States to establish national nutritional guidelines and promote these guidelines through educational institutions and particularly in rural communities with emphasis upon ensuring the nutritional needs of children and young people are met, and to recommend a varied diet of sufficient protein, fiber, and fruits and vegetables, and limit the consumption of sugar, highly processed foods, alcohol, sodium, saturated and trans-fat;
- 9. *Suggests* that Member States implement policies to improve the situation of marginalized groups who are disproportionately affected by food insecurity and malnutrition by:
  - a. Focusing on displaced persons and prioritizing those at an increased risk of food insecurity;
  - b. Addressing the unique nutritional requirements of women and girls and expediting the transition towards fairer, gender-sensitive, and sustainable food systems;
  - c. Specifically targeting children and young people who suffer from food insecurity, through food banks or free school lunches;
- 10. Suggests Member States identify and compile data regarding current intellectual properties which, if waived, have the potential to drastically improve agricultural yields, and the resilience of crops or improve nutrition for people in the crisis phase of acute food insecurity in their state, as determined in association with the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Acute Food Insecurity classification, and to present the list at the United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) 2024;
- 11. *Supports* the increased development of agribusiness practices which:
  - Are not strictly limited to the farming industry, but also encompass a wider array of system inputs and outputs for value maximization, marketing, entrepreneurship, financing, and micro and macro farming expansion in the global economy;
  - b. Aims to stimulate agribusiness production and supply quantities of agricultural products for end-consumption, and endeavors to increase naturally produced agricultural products which may be resources for human consumption or other uses;
  - c. Provides the necessary fuels, electricity, and feed to be directly utilized for crops, animals, and equipment necessary to create naturally grown products;
  - d. Produces resources and commodities on local land to provide access to more local agrarian industry and expansion, thereby increasing the supply of available fertilizers, chemicals, and animal health products to leverage energy produced elsewhere to enhance production efficiency and sustainability;
- 12. Recommends that Member States and organizations such as the World Trade Organization and World Food Programme convene and discuss issues concerning agribusiness along with other public and private experts by:

- Focusing on agribusiness with specific regard to sustainable and equitable market access, and educating local farmers and national distributors on their roles and impacts within the greater international economic agribusiness system;
- b. Encouraging organizations such as the World Trade Organization and World Food Programme to share their practices and expertise with governments, especially with Global South Member States;
- 13. Requests that Member States consider policies that increase food trade relations and acknowledge global food trade networks as increasingly more secure, efficient, and mutually beneficial and:
  - Appeals to Member States to modify policies around international trade practices to enable a more accessible transfer of food products across borders to allow for increased access to an extensive and diverse quantity of foods;
  - Encourages nations that are significantly involved with the global food trade community to foster a more stable trade network in order to move from a "unipolar" to a "multipolar" system;
  - Supports initiatives aimed at strengthening the resilience and efficiency of international food supply chains, including investments in infrastructure, technology, and logistics to mitigate disruptions in food distribution;
- 14. *Requests* Member States ensure the unimpeded flow of humanitarian assistance especially food to civilians in conflict areas;
- 15. Encourages all Member States to reduce the risk of famine during war and conflict time, and protect displaced people, including refugees and indigenous people from malnutrition by:
  - a. Partnering with the World Food Program (WFP) to ensure delivering food to displaced people, refugees, and indigenous people during war and conflict time;
  - b. Assuring that everyone gets access to sufficient food and water as a basic human right;
  - c. Partnering with FAO to submit a yearly report including the data of the food disruption;
  - d. Creating policies focused on data collection system for refugees and displaced people during times of war and conflict, to keep their data, such as their names, ages, family members, and medical histories, saved and updated;
- 16. Calls upon all involved parties to ensure the unimpeded flow of food and fertilizer products from Ukraine to world markets in coordination with the Grain from Ukraine program launched at the International Summit on Food Security in Kyiv in 2022;
- 17. Suggests Member States collaborate with the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) to initiate training on preparation for food management during emergencies which will:
  - a. Result in establishing committees in the different Red Cross, Red Crescent, and other regional subdivisions to create an action plan for food insecurity education;
  - b. Prepare citizens for emergencies such as conflicts and natural disasters;

- c. Promote multiple communication methods in public seminars, media, and more, to deliver the training program's content in the most accessible way possible;
- 18. Recommends the General Assembly establish a program, Post-Conflict Food Infrastructure Programme (PFIP), to help Member States build capacity toward a post-conflict food supply infrastructure system which will:
  - a. Provide food supplies for citizens after conflict through the Emergency Food Assistance by the World Food Programme (WFP);
  - b. Encourage Member States to work with the Oxfam International B-Ready Program as a potential implementation Framework to provide immediate aid to civilians post-conflict;
  - Use a percentage of the funds from voluntary Member States and organizations for a program to educate farmers about new ways of agriculture and donate agricultural tools needed to begin a self-sufficient farm;
  - d. Financially support local farmers and food producers in post-war areas which would be
    essential to their local food supply systems and ensure their viability and build their
    capacities to apply for microfinance loans;
  - e. Recommend that Member States consider donating to the B-Ready Program;
- 19. Stressing that policy considerations on food systems involve health-related components of trade in food commodities across international borders and that Member States initiate trade-related policies which bolster the availability of essential medical goods and services by:
  - a. Focusing on the limitation and prevention of dietary and risk-disease linkages associated with human health;
  - b. Addressing trade-related changes in mortality rates;
  - c. Harmonizing food standards and revisiting the Uruguay Round agreements;
  - d. Advising Member States to employ measures that reduce the duration of limitations and restrictions on exports of critical goods and services in geopolitical areas with ongoing detrimental humanitarian crises with the aim of implementing and improving transparent trade policy;
- 20. Suggesting the implementation of policy frameworks that integrate food commodities within the public goods category, with allocations designed to fulfill the dietary requirements of populations in crisis and emergency situations, by incentivizing primary baseline nutrition stakeholders to dedicate a specified portion of their total food production for the public, adhering to the public goods characteristics of non-excludability and non-rivalry.



Code: ECOSOC/1/4

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Topic: Combatting Food Insecurity and the Risk of Famine

The Economic and Social Council,

Affirming the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 2 (zero hunger) and SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production), as a guiding framework for agricultural innovation and sustainability,

*Mindful* of General Assembly resolution 61/163 (2006) which outlines gender inequities in the global food insecurity crisis,

Reaffirming the 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) "Geneva package" established by the MC12 held in Geneva on 12-17 June, which was the culmination of efforts by World Trade Organization members to provide concrete trade-related responses to important challenges facing the world today,

Appreciating the efforts of existing United Nations institutions such as the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), World Food Programme (WFP), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in supporting agricultural development and sustainability initiatives,

Noting with interest the 2023 Digitalization for Resilient Agrifood Systems from the Food and Agriculture Organization aiming to showcase the key role of digital cooperation to address nowadays challenges effectively and overcome fragmentation within and across sectors to act in a trans-disciplinary manner, bringing together the natural and social sciences with data and technology to drive agrifood systems transformation,

Calling attention of Member States to acknowledge the National Climate Change Policy with the commitments from The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the active foundation supporting the National Climate Change Council regarding climate-smart practices (CSA),

Acknowledging the critical role of agriculture in sustaining global food security and recognizing its vulnerability to climate change, environmental degradation, and socio-economic disparities,

Emphasizing the importance of climate-resilient agricultural practices, nutritional enhancement of crops, and sustainable farming techniques in addressing the challenges posed by climate change and ensuring food security for all,

Acknowledging the importance of developing and utilizing seeds of drought-resistant and flood-resistant crops to accomplish the goal of diversifying and increasing the resilience of crops in Member States that are vulnerable to the effects of climate change,

Acknowledging the urgent need to prepare nations for the effects of climate change and aid them in creating alternative methods of development,

Having considered the need to build a reliance on clean energy sources in order to combat climate change,

Recognizing that the emerging fertilizer crisis encompassing fertilizer shortages, a disrupted fertilizer market, and rising fertilizer prices, increases the risk of food insecurity by inflating food prices and threatening crop yields,

*Underlining* the significance of knowledge exchange, collaboration, and the transfer of innovative technologies in advancing agricultural practices and enhancing productivity,

Calls attention to the lack of research on cutting-edge technology regarding, vertical and smart farming,

Bearing in mind the critical need for fostering dialogue and cooperation among Member States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society, and the private sector to achieve significant advancements in agricultural sustainability,

*Noting* the pressing concern of inefficient use of water in agriculture and the creative work of NGOs and United Nations organizations to combat this issue as climate change exacerbates water availability,

Concerned about the effects of climate change on the availability of water for agricultural use,

*Emphasizing* expanding agricultural production has the potential to stimulate rural economic growth, create jobs, and alleviate poverty,

*Noting* deep concern with the growing complexity and challenges faced by businesses in ensuring the resilience, and sustainability of their supply chains,

Expressing concern about a potential distortion of food prices by food speculation,

Acknowledging the lack of food access and food justice and the need to take into consideration the collaboration with global, no-profit associations,

Highlighting the role of NGOs to act as an alternative forum for the implementation of the internet in the distribution of education and other necessities of some Member States,

- Urges the WFP to direct its efforts and resources towards achieving the goals set in the WFP Strategic Plan (2022-2025) and its goals, for:
  - a. Member States to limit trade barriers with said Member States regarding food trade prices in times of humanitarian disasters, while not risking their own food security;
  - The WFP mandate to examine and expand actions on the reports supporting local farmers and vulnerable communities to strategically adapt and improve emergency and disaster response;
- Calls for Member States to finance agricultural projects to better help farmers such as the IFAD which helps local farmers become more sustainable and independent;
- 3. Recommends the implementation of workshops, inspired by Oxfam International and the Vision for adapted crops and soil (2023) (VACS), particularly for Member States whose agriculture

sector is struck by climate change, those wanting to develop a climate-resilient agricultural industry, and ensure that women farmers are equally educated on agricultural practices and techniques;

- 4. Encourages enhancements and collaboration of the small farmer producer organization models, strengthening management, leadership, and negotiation skills to cultivate local leaders supporting development, new market opportunities, income generation, and food security and nutrition, by:
  - a. Urging Member States to purchase surplus crops from farmers, facilitating quicker food to communities in need:
  - b. Getting specialized food packets for young children to address health concerns such as stunting;
- 5. Decides to conduct a global, large-scale study on the potential effects of food speculation on food prices, to disseminate the findings to Member States and relevant UN specialized agencies, and to schedule a session into the annual ECOSOC agenda for the review of the outcomes and exploration of potential measures against detrimental effects of food speculation;
- Urges best-practice sharing between Food & Agriculture Resilience Mission (FARM) and NGOs such as A Growing Culture (AGC) to promote agroecology as climate practices through encouraging farmer's autonomy and agroecological innovation;
- Requests the creation of a reporting group and best practices sharing amongst Member States
  and developmental programs such as Feed the Future initiative or US Agency for International
  Development (USAID) to enhance food security and eradicate famine in those member states;
- 8. Supports the creation of a partnership between WFP and local research organizations to discover new innovative farming techniques to promote sustainable agriculture in wavering environments due to climate change, such as vertical farming and smart farming with tools such as Al and drones;
- 9. Underlines with concern the importance of addressing the emerging fertilizer crisis, by:
  - a. Encouraging the Group of Twenty (G20) to enhance global fertilizer monitoring through its Agricultural Market Information System;
  - b. Advising Member States to increase their fertilizer production capacities if possible;
  - Calling on the FAO to research methods to more effectively use fertilizer and share the
    insights with Member States, in order to reduce fertilizer, need and mitigate the negative
    impact of inadequate fertilizer use on the environment;
- 10. Strongly advises Member States to implement sustainable energy collection methods like the Portuguese Renewable Energy Association, in battling the climate crisis, which could include wind turbines, hydroelectricity, solar energy, and municipal solid waste, to help eliminate greenhouse gasses;
- 11. Strongly urges Member States to collaborate between those most affected by climate change and those Member States who already developed those programs to implement adaptation programs

- in tandem with the World Food Programme to preserve soil biodiversity, make soil climate resistant, improve water reservoirs, combat water pollution, provide sanitary waste removal, and work to combat the rising sea levels;
- 12. Reiterates its call to Member States to share information and technology regarding effective water use in agriculture through rain and groundwater management, desalination, and efficient irrigation practices, and to continue to work together with organizations such as Elemental Water Makers to achieve sustainable water use in creative ways;
- 13. Decides to create an advisory board responsible for increasing environmental sustainability by focusing on climate resilient agriculture and nutritional enhancement, while supporting small-scale farmers, enhancing resource efficiency and maximizing existing food products, proposing land use planning policies prioritizing the protection of agricultural land, further advising Member States on how to increase accessibility to nutritional food and improve climate resistance in farming practices, implementing platforms for farmers and companies to redistribute surplus produce to food banks, reducing food waste, that:
  - a. Brings together agriculture and technology experts and scientists to discuss these issues within the new International Forum for Agricultural Innovation and Sustainability (IFAIS), under the advisory board, nominating experts globally in agricultural science, technology, and farming practices, as well as representatives from relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Zero Waste Europe (ZWE), with the primary objective of collaboration between agricultural scientists and farmers globally, aiming to improve food security, by:
    - Creating a network of agricultural professionals worldwide to facilitate access to information for external agricultural professionals who are not a part of the advisory council;
    - Improving access to educational programs on enhanced sustainable agriculture worldwide, by fostering pilot projects, showcasing their outcomes online, and support for NGO's practices;
  - b. Organizes a biannual review of IFAIS activities and outcomes, taking part in the form of a conference like the World Food Program with the purpose of evaluating progress, identifying challenges, and adapting strategies, split up into:
    - i. A practice-oriented forum, focusing on the practical collaboration between scientists, agriculture experts of all scales, and industry leaders;
    - ii. A policy-oriented forum, creating and amending policies in alignment with the purposes of the advisory council;
- 14. *Recommends* the FAO intensify its assistance to Member States in developing and distributing seeds of drought-resistant and flood-resistant crops;
- 15. *Draws attention* to the importance of optimization of the supply chain to reduce the risk of famine and create a more efficient plan for food allocation, by:

- a. Calling Upon Member States to conduct research on utilizing advanced data analytics and predictive modeling to forecast the demand for foods more accurately;
- Recommending Member States expand the visibility of the supply chain to implement technologies, such as temperature and humidity sensors in warehouses to monitor storage conditions of perishable goods in real-time, ensuring quality and compliance with Member States' regulations;
- c. Further Recommending Member States create stockpiles on national or regional levels with leftover seeds, leftover food, and extra farming equipment;
- 16. Proposes the establishment of the Expert Commission on Food Waste Reduction and Sustainable, Accessible Agricultural Methods (ECOFARM) building on the efforts undertaken at the 2023 Digitalization for Resilient Agrifood Systems event from the Food and Agriculture Organization, acting as a permanent platform to share information, composed of experts from diverse geographical and educational backgrounds, with a suggested minimum of 2 experts per continent, from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), corporations or universities which will be:
  - Reporting the topics discussed at the conference to the Council, FAO, and the UNDP and recommending that these committees present the findings in the format of a report simplified for understanding of the general population;
  - b. Setting the goals for the commission's next meeting to initiate progress towards the SDGs;
  - c. Holding the Race Against Food Waste competition (RAW) which will serve as an incentive to achieve more sustainable agricultural practices globally by inviting Member States and corporations to present rigorous technical reports to a high-level jury consisting of FAO personnel, with the potential to receive dedicated SDG Action Awards for exemplary achievements in reducing food waste.