

CODE: GA/RES/1/1
COMMITTEE: General Assembly
TOPIC: Agricultural Development, Food Security and Nutrition

1 *The General Assembly,*

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3 *Affirming* Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as it declares access
4 to food and water as being fundamental human rights,

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6 *Recalling* Millennium Development Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Hunger and Poverty,
7 which recognizes the importance of achieving food security in order to reduce poverty,

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9 *Having considered* the influence of climate change and the damage from severe droughts,
10 The Overseas Development Institute has clearly indicated the importance of biodiversity,
11 due to the effects of a larger possibility to substitute those that are in decline by those
12 expanding,

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14 *Bearing in mind* the importance of including agriculture development, food security, and
15 nutrition in the post-2015 development agenda as these play a crucial role in reducing
16 poverty and furthering sustainable development globally,

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18 *Recalling* the 1996 Rome Declaration on World Food Security and World Food Summit
19 Plan of Action, which reaffirm and establish a strategy to ensure that the rights for
20 everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, and to be free from hunger are met,

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22 *Noting with deep concern* a statement released by the World Food Programme (WFP)
23 Gender Policy (2009) that explains that gender inequality is a major cause and effect of
24 hunger and poverty: it is estimated that 60 percent of chronically hungry people are
25 women and girls,

26

27 *Recognizing* the need for joint initiatives and long term solutions that support women's
28 engagement in sustainable development such as the UN Women's Joint Programme on
29 Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in the
30 Context of Sustainable Development and the Post MDGs +15,

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32 *Bearing in mind* the Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) *The State of Food and*
33 *Agriculture 2010-2011 Report on Women in Agriculture: Closing the Gap for*
34 *Development*, which recognizes that giving women equal access to agricultural resources
35 as men could increase production by 20-30 percent in developing countries, and could
36 reduce the number of hungry people in the world by upwards of 12 percent, or 100
37 million people,

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39 *Strongly emphasizing* the facilitation of safe and sustainable sources of water as
40 paramount to the development of sustainable agricultural and reaffirming General
41 Assembly resolution 64/292 (2010) which recognizes that water security is to be
42 acknowledged as a human right,

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44 *Further noting the UN-Water 2014 World Water Development Report* which outlines that
45 70% of global water usage is devoted to irrigation, making water sustainability a key
46 concern with respect to agricultural development, outside of its necessity in nutrition and
47 human health,

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49 *Encouraged by* UN-Water's existing programs on assessment, monitoring, and support
50 related to the sustainable use of water, including the World Water Assessment
51 Programme, the Water for Life Decade, the World Health Organization (WHO)/UN
52 Children's Fund (UNICEF) Joint Monitoring Programme on Water Supply and
53 Sanitation, and the UN-Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development,

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55 *Deeply alarmed by* the 2014 UN-Water World Water Development Report, as it
56 highlighted that over 870 million people are currently undernourished due to a lack of
57 access to food, and self-sufficient agriculture, and accessible water with high nutritive
58 value in developing states that have contributed to this statistic,

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60 *Recalling* the 2010 report of the FAO *Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*, which
61 emphasized how monocultures in crops such as wheat result in a 19% loss in production;
62 how case studies in pest management by the FAO demonstrated the success of integrated
63 pest management (IPM) programmes in Asia – for example in Bangladesh, where
64 introducing fish to rice paddies as natural pest management allowed for increased crop
65 yields and reduced chemical pesticide consumption to allow focus on crop
66 diversification; how small-scale farmers are essential to the “development and long-term
67 adoption” of sustainable agriculture methods,

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69 *Bearing in mind* General Assembly resolution 64/197 (2009), which requests increased
70 international focus on agriculture technology for development,

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72 *Reaffirming* the importance and progressive success of the *Comprehensive Africa*
73 *Agriculture Development Programme* (CAADP), established in 2003, and their emphasis
74 on vocational training in African countries such as Kenya and Ethiopia as a policy
75 framework for agricultural transformation, wealth creation, food security and nutrition,
76 economic growth and prosperity,

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78 *Recalling* the 2013 Report of the Secretary-General on agriculture development and food
79 security (A/67/294) that emphasizes the importance of sustainable agricultural practices,
80 which include Conservation Agriculture and its crucial role in increasing productivity and
81 food security while combating effects of climate change,

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83 *Noting* the success of Conservation Agriculture initiatives such as the *Strengthening*

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85 *Rural Livelihoods Severely Affected by Climate Change-induced Drought in Lesotho*
86 project, which was run in coordination with numerous UN agencies, the Lesotho
87 government, World Health Organization, and local NGOs, which used this approach to

- 88 increase crop output, reduce production costs, and conserve water and organic soil
89 matter,
90
- 91 1. *Encourages* Member States to work with non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
92 and UN agencies - including but not limited to, United Nations Environmental
93 Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme – to develop
94 programs focused on provide training and support for small-scale farmers to apply the
95 Conservation Agriculture approach, and to recognize both, short and long term
96 benefits which result in:
 - 97 a. Providing an environmentally and economically sustainable approach to
98 farming;
 - 99 b. A universally applicable agricultural approach to all landscapes;
 - 100 c. Compatibility with local practices;
 - 101 d. Agro-ecological promotion and crop diversification;
 - 102 e. Reduced soil degradation and improved soil nutrients;
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 - 104 2. *Urges* Member States to develop educational capacity building workshops on
105 agricultural diversification for independent farmers in order to provide more secure
106 livelihoods and sources of income for these farmers through:
 - 107 a. Production of multiple cash crops;
 - 108 b. On-farm agritourism combining farming activities with direct to consumer
109 sales of local foods at farmer markets and pick-your-own operations;
 - 110 c. Off-farm business ventures such as agricultural services and natural resource
111 extractive industries and wholesale trade, transportation, and utilities;
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 - 113 3. *Recommends* the expansion of the CAADP’s policy framework regarding vocational
114 training, currently being implemented in countries such as Kenya and Ethiopia, as an
115 important role in rural areas as way to achieve agricultural transformation, wealth
116 creation, food security and nutrition, economic growth and prosperity;
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 - 118 4. *Encourages* Member States place a renewed emphasis on research and development
119 of sustainable agricultural practices and technologies including:
 - 120 a. crop rotation, intercropping, and cover crops to protect soil health and defend
121 against pest infestations;
 - 122 b. agroforestry and integrated crop-livestock systems that increase forest cover
123 and simulate natural ecosystem organization, renewing biodiversity and
124 improving resilience in the face of climate change;
 - 125 c. bio-pesticides and integrated pest management techniques that reduce the
126 need for chemical pesticides;
 - 127 d. organic alternatives to chemical fertilizers such as earthworm waste;
 - 128 e. agro-meteorological systems that provide real time weather data allowing
129 farmers to anticipate weather conditions and act accordingly;
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 - 131 5. *Encourages* Member States, in consultation with UN-Water, expand existing
132 programs aimed at the conservation of water for agricultural use including the usage

133 of drip irrigation methods over the utilization of spray-irrigation, and development of
134 educational and training programs;

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136 6. *Appeals to* all Member States to support the development of agriculture, particularly
137 in developing countries, for the purpose of furthering food sustainability and self-
138 sufficiency, which can be supported by:

139 a. fostering crop diversity to end reliance on monocultures;

140 b. pest management to ensure continued growth of newly implemented crops;

141 c. integration of conservation agriculture practices in a local, community-based
142 approach;

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144 7. *Recommends* the expansion of the WFP Gender Policy, to include program priorities
145 that would provide support groups and training to women who are involved in
146 agricultural activities in order increase self-reliance and reduce the burden on women
147 created by food insecurity in rural communities;

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149 8. *Endorses* existing programs and initiatives that are working towards improving food
150 and nutrition security for rural women, increasing their access and control of
151 resources, services, and income, and strengthening their participation in rural
152 production organizations, as means to increase women's participation in the
153 agricultural sector.