



Elephant Model United Nations

15th – 17th March 2023



FORUM: Sustainable Development Committee

QUESTION OF: Increasing agricultural production despite the effects of the global climate crisis

MAIN SUBMITTER: United States of America

CO-SUBMITTERS: Poland, Belarus, Greece, France, Australia, Israel

The Fourth Committee of the General Assembly,

Recognizing the uncondusive weather conditions that pose difficulties on agricultural activity which occur in the form of reductions in water availability, floods, rising temperatures and abnormalities in precipitation patterns,

Having devoted attention to the challenge of bolstering agricultural productivity, resilience, and sustainability in the face of climate change,

Deeply conscious of how the agricultural sector and economical branches are becoming increasingly interconnected and prone to chain reactions which bear the risk of prompting economic turmoils,

Seeking the promotion of environment-friendly and sustainable farming practices,

Noting with regret the insufficient levels of investments in agricultural value chains,

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring an increased ramification of agricultural prosperity,

Underscoring novel technologies' potential of developing sustainable methods to mitigate inadequacies of the current farming methods,

Noting with deep concern the unsustainable methods currently implemented in the agricultural sector which exacerbate the effects of climate change and subsequently impede the efficiency of agriculture,

1. Stresses the extensive and inappropriate use of agricultural antibiotics and recommends the technological development of phage therapy and the usage of bacteriophages as an additional countermeasure to infections and therefore especially

- on livestock which are directly harvested for the production of meat for instance as antibiotic-resistant superbugs may result in:
- a. hindered recovery of livestock,
 - b. diseases spreading from livestock to humans;
2. Recommends adopting regenerative agricultural practices such as but not limited to:
 - a. cover crops in the rotation of harvests in order to:
 - i. conserve or increase the fertility of soil,
 - ii. control pests and disease,
 - iii. control carbon emissions,
 - b. crop rotation,
 - c. agroforestry;
 3. Reminds that political conflicts such as the Russian invasion of Ukraine deeply affect the global food system as the two countries happen to be among the supreme grain suppliers of the world;
 4. Urges the Black Sea Grain Initiative to be limited to pro-Ukrainian exporters and to exclude Russia's trade activity within the boundaries of this initiative;
 5. Calls upon UN member states to launch a fund which will be used to subsidize farmers who actively perform the following sustainable practices in order to facilitate food affordability:
 - a. cover crops,
 - b. crop rotation,
 - c. agroforestry,
 - d. precision agriculture;
 6. Desiring a cautionary usage of chemicals by identifying criteria that outline the moderate implementation of the following harmful substances which shall be determined by the environmental supervisors of the UN:
 - a. Nitrogen,
 - b. Nitrates,
 - c. Nitrites,
 - d. Phosphorous,
 - e. Phosphates;
 7. Further recommends the plantation of legumes in form of cover-crops with the aim of minimizing the use of artificial nitrogen by capitalizing on legumes' nitrogen-fixating attribute which:
 - a. Absorb nitrogen from the air naturally and in cooperation with rhizobia bacteria enrich the soil with this nutrient,
 - b. Provide substantial amounts of nitrogen when turned under for the next crop or used for compost;
 8. Recommends the use of digitally integrated systems in order to facilitate the exchange of information regarding sanitary and phytosanitary measures which can:
 - a. control pests, diseases, or other contaminants,

- b. help keep track of health, quality and safety standards;
9. Requests further research on technologies specifically on:
 - a. weather-resilient crops,
 - b. cloud-seeding,
 - c. water-reuse systems;
10. Encourages governments to provide subventions to corporations that execute research on the focal points listed in OC-8;
11. Recommends UN member states to refrain from domestic trade policies which constrain the imports and reduce the competitiveness of agricultural exports by raising input costs;
12. Expresses its appreciation of the following avenues:
 - a. supportive measures that bolster small farming businesses with the aim of promoting biodiversity and an even income distribution among farmers,
 - b. increased plantage of herbal lays on arable fields to attract livestock to these locations and thus increase fertility that is provided naturally from the animals' dung,
 - c. reinforcing biotechnological practices of breeding high-yielding annual crops with long-living perennials which would enable multiple harvests from a single plantation;
13. Seeks an increase in “crowding-in” investments by government intervention or by policies that encourage agricultural investment in areas such as:
 - a. biotechnology,
 - b. educational programs;
14. Invites the nations to financially support food-insecure countries' agricultural development which are proclaimed to belong to this category by respective UN panels;
15. Proclaims the establishment of the fond “Deforestation makes our world the worst place and is the beginning of our end” (“DMOWTWITBE”) to cover all mentioned measures.