

**Forum:** Food and Agricultural Organization

**Question of:** Advancing global sustainable agricultural development

**Submitted by:** Saudi Arabia



**Co-submitted by:** Afghanistan, Australia, Azerbaijan, Burundi, Chad, Chile, Croatia, DPR Korea, Egypt, France, Ghana, Greece, Italy, Japan, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Senegal, Slovenia, Sweden, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen

- 1 The Food and Agricultural Organization,
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- 3 *Emphasizing* that the task of agricultural development should be implemented firstly in countries
- 4 affected by desertification,
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- 6 *Believing* that every nation will support - financially or in other ways - the countries in need,
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- 8 *Expressing its satisfaction* for those countries which have taken successful steps and established efficient
- 9 methods for developing their agriculture,
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- 11 *Bearing in mind* that there are other territories which don't have to combat desertification but would
- 12 still need improvements,
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- 14 *Recalling* UNCCD, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (1994),
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- 16 *Deeply disturbed* by the fact that billions of people are starving in the affected nations because of the
- 17 lack of developed agriculture,
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- 19 *Contemplating* that desertification and the lack of developed agriculture contribute to climate change,
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- 21 *Affirming* that dealing with desertification will reduce poverty as well,
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- 23 *Recalling* the Global Assessment of Soil Degradation (1991) commissioned by the United Nations
- 24 Environment Program,
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- 26 *Realizing that* drylands occupy 41% of Earth's land area and are home to more than 2 billion people,
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- 28 *Fully alarmed* of the fact that there are several countries which are unable to make a living at all due to
- 29 desertification and the huge areas of deserts,
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- 31 *Desiring* to act under the Charter of the United Nations,
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- 33 *Declaring* "land degradation in arid, semiarid and dry sub humid areas resulting from various factors,
- 34 including climatic variations and human activities" as the definition of desertification defined by the U.N.
- 35 Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),

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1. **Asks** member states to remodel current land related production practices in an environmentally sustainable manner, to counter the increasing negative effects of:
  - a. Desertification,
  - b. Water and wind erosion,
  - c. Land fertility decline,
  - d. Salinization,
  - e. Waterlogging,
  - f. Lowering of the water table,
  - g. Deforestation,
  - h. Forest degradation,
  - i. Decreasing soil quality,
  - j. Increasing greenhouse gas emissions,
  - k. Increasing use of herbicides and pesticides,
  - l. Threatening the habitats of wild life;
  
2. **Requests** the summarization of multiple projects concerning the issue
  - a. named “Summarization of Projects to Advance Sustainable Agriculture” (SPASA),
  - b. with which, collaborating with professionals and non-governmental organizations, would survey the current status of each affected country on the topic of desertification,
  - c. the project should be financed by the Food and Agricultural Organization, G20 nations depending on their GDP and non-governmental organizations,
  - d. in order to find and highlight those territories where the stopping of desertification is the most urging,
  - e. in order to centralize the projects but at the same time let them work individually,
  - f. in order to help with the finding and elaboration of unique and proper solutions;
  
3. **Recommends** for all affected LEDCs to start intensive farming after the establishment of SPASA with:
  - a. asking financial help from the World Bank in case the country does not have well-founded financial background to purchase the below mentioned mechanisms and technologies,
  - b. the improvement of mechanism used in agriculture,
  - c. the use of fertilizer in order to not let the land drain,
  - d. the improvement of some vegetation in order to:
    - i. make them resistant against diseases,
    - ii. be able to have more farm production in less spacious areas;
  
4. **Congratulates** all nations that support countries in need with aid that is not bound to any conditions that will harm the country’s economy, people, ecology or politics and asks them to keep sending them until the implemented methods have proven their efficiency and until the given countries are able to deal with the problem on their own;

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5. **Encourages** all nations to take advantage of their geographical presets for example nations which have highlands to contemplate the advantages of:
    - a. terrace tillage as it could be established and would provide an effective solution in those areas which have the possibility to create such things,
    - b. building out irrigation systems if they are needed and if the unexploited areas could be suitable for plant cultivation;
  6. **Supports** the creation of artificial lakes and rivers in combination with a program with the same scheme of the Great Green Wall project where it would help solving the problem and would encourage all affected nations to ask for financial help from NGOs and other nations which have developed agriculture and a stable financial background which
    - a. is needed in order to avoid soil degradation by the green vegetation,
    - b. and encourages all affected nations to ask for financial help from their supporter nations which have a stable financial background and to involve non-governmental organizations working in the given countries;
  7. **Encourages** each nation to support all projects which are engaged in fount and water drainage systems;
  8. **Recommends** that member states improve the irrigation systems of farms by introducing for example the drip irrigation system to ensure maximum productivity of food growth as well as to develop methods to collect precipitation;
  9. **Calls upon** all affected nations to support the prevention of desertification by the:
    - a. introduction of alternative livelihoods that have less impact on dry land resources since these livelihoods benefit from the unique advantages of dry lands such as permanently producible solar power,
    - b. creation of economic opportunities in urban centers and areas outside dry lands;
  10. **Supports** the cultivation of previously sown but currently unused pieces of land over previously uncultivated pieces of land;
  11. **Calls upon** developed countries to increase investment in desalination methods and to share such technologies with countries exposed to desertification or determined to pursue the aforementioned projects;
  12. **Suggests** all nations, especially countries which are connected to the ocean, to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by increasing ocean supervision, which
    - a. prevents overfishing of the Oceans and improves sustainable sustenance,
    - b. enhances sustainably the growing fishery sector and helps to strengthen food security, wealth creation and employment;

- 125 13. **Urges** countries receiving water from the same river or lake to cooperate in distributing its  
126 water and managing it, and to refrain from interfering with its natural functioning unless  
127 regional consensus is achieved;  
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- 129 14. **Further recommends** considering the ideas of Paul Kaiser, a US-American farmer, whose ideas  
130 consist of:  
131 a. intervening as little as possible in the grounds ecosystem by cutting back agricultural  
132 procedures such as ploughing or airing and using fewer machines that have an impact  
133 on the ground because they are destroying essential microorganisms,  
134 b. fostering yields by leaving plants and roots on the fields,  
135 c. showing that agriculture is also effective without masses of water by removing sprinkler  
136 systems and ploughing and using ducted systems instead of them,  
137 d. stimulating microbiological processes which guarantee enormous productivity, by,  
138 i. avoiding monocultures,  
139 ii. keeping the ground moist by taking care that plants receive enough shadow in  
140 order to allow microorganisms, which are able to corrode matter such as stone,  
141 to get up to the surface,  
142 e. ensuring an effective usage of the ground by reducing pesticides and increasing  
143 conservative practices such as caring for shadow, which is more effective and is far more  
144 sustainable than pesticides,  
145 f. growing seedlings in greenhouses,  
146 g. using compost, which is an effective and natural fertilizer and would otherwise be lying  
147 on disposal sites, where it emits climate-damaging gases such as methane and carbon  
148 dioxide,  
149 h. the possibility to decentralize agriculture because farms like that do not benefit from  
150 enlargements;  
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- 152 15. **Encourages** all nations to collaborate in the research of GMOs if possible, and share results  
153 globally, in order to improve the sustainability of agriculture worldwide;  
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- 155 16. **Endorses** further meetings regarding the issue under the FAO, cooperating with the UNEP in  
156 order to see the success of the implemented expansions and to invent the further processions  
157 of the development;  
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- 159 17. **Recommends** nations to provide certain education to produce highly-qualified specialists in this  
160 field and to inform consumers about sustainable agriculture;  
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- 164 18. **Further recommends** being open to new agricultural technologies such as  
165 a. vertical farming, which has proved sustainable at research projects such as Linköping  
166 (Sweden) or Kyoto (Japan), especially considering the fact that the urban population is  
167 expected to grow up to 6 billion,

- 168                    b. green technologies such as CRISPR/Cas9, which has the advantage that genes are only  
169                    rearranged instead of taken away from other living creatures, which bears unknown and  
170                    uninvestigated risks for human beings and nature, and is declared to be a breakthrough  
171                    in science;  
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- 173 19. **Supports** all activities in order to stop wood clearing, especially in the rainforests, which is a  
174                    serious danger for the worldwide climate, by  
175                    a. revealing alternative working opportunities to farmers and better income chances,  
176                    b. reducing wood clearing for plantations such as for palm oil or soy;  
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- 178 20. **Further requests** all industrial nations, especially the United States and Europe, to give financial  
179                    help, depending on their national output, to developing countries, which  
180                    a. will make it possible for poor people living in rural areas to have a minimum income,  
181                    nourish themselves and lift them out of poverty,  
182                    b. helps farmers to offer their regionally cultivated products on local markets which makes  
183                    the farmers less depending on fluctuations of currencies, speculations, transport costs  
184                    and climatic catastrophes;  
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- 186 21. **Urges** all member states to inform their population about the necessity of sustainable  
187                    agriculture, by distributing measures such as but not limited to:  
188                    a. teaching in school about it,  
189                    b. publishing up-to-date information regarding sustainable agriculture on official websites,  
190                    c. producing informative radio and TV ads about how the consumer's choice can influence  
191                    and support the sustainability, defining sustainable methods of agriculture as such  
192                    methods that allow for comparable consecutive yields, whether reached through:  
193                    i. use of appropriate fertilizers,  
194                    ii. use of modern pesticides,  
195                    iii. use of genetically appropriate seeds, engineered such if necessary,  
196                    iv. use of traditional methods such as crop rotation,  
197                    d. Sending representatives of NGOs to farmers in LEDCs homes in order to provide them  
198                    with education about sustainable agriculture;  
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- 200 22. **Encourages** all nations to recycle wastewater which has been controlled for its usability in order  
201                    to use it for agricultural needs;  
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- 203 23. **Requests** all nations to participate in an exchange of genetic material for classical breeding to  
204                    improve the production capacity of local agriculture.