



Question of: Safeguarding the Genetic Diversity of Seeds and Plants to Improve Food Security

Submitted by: Germany

Co-submitted by: Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Italy, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Spain, Ukraine, United States of America

The FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION,

Emphasizing that the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which was established by the United Nations (UN), is the most comprehensive and universal instrument tackling agricultural issues which show their numerous effects not only within a specific region or country but all around the globe,

Deeply concerned by the fact that almost 690 million people were chronically hungry in 2019 and that it is expected that 840 million people all over the globe will suffer from hunger by 2030,

Pointing out the fact that not all of the states are capable of preserving the genetic diversity of seeds and plants,

Taking into account that some companies are engineering the genetics of seeds in a way that if the farmers try to plant them, new plants are unable to be grown, and this would cause the local farmers to spend more money on seeds since they cannot grow food on their own and they have become dependent to the companies,

Also taking into account the fact that the possibility of physical vulnerability of the companies may cause scarcity in a great region,

Noting that seed banks are the most beneficial institutions among all to each and every country in curing food scarcity issues,

Bearing in mind that some crucial health problems such as nutritional stunting and wasting diseases can occur in the people who are face to face with hunger,

1. Suggests the establishment of a universally accessible seed bank, partially funded by the International Monetary Fund's donations and food-secure countries, which will be under supervision of a council that will:
 - a. Contain members from any state that are willing to observe the actions taken by the bank,
 - b. Prepare reports to be sent to FAO monthly about the genetic diversity of plants such as the safeguarded seeds, the seeds that are subject to be safeguarded, the genetic nature of seeds which are in danger;

 2. Asks for the creation of a donating system, which is going to:
 - a. Be based on a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), so that on-duty personnel can:
 - i. Ensure that the donations are being used for the needed and expected purposes,
 - ii. Buy appropriate food with the donated money for people to have a balanced diet,
 - iii. Distribute food, especially to low-income families and children,
 - b. Accept people's donations,
 - c. Be held online in order to:
 - i. Make it easier for people who are willing to donate money,
 - ii. Reduce the risks of the COVID-19 pandemic to avoid physical contact,
 - iii. Make it less time consuming,
 - d. Positively affect involved people's mental health;

 3. Requests to establish a new department in the Ministry of Agriculture of each state, employing selected and trained personnel, which will:
 - a. Aim to ensure that multinational companies do not genetically modify the seeds, so that the farmers or companies who buy them are not able to plant them again and produce new food,
 - b. Fine the mentioned companies, which will be done by the lawyers and judges to prevent others from taking the same actions, and whose sums are to be considered by the people in the FAO committee,
 - c. Supervise local companies by sending reports to the FAO committee and other UN bodies;

 4. Recommends raising awareness among the population, especially those working in the agriculture sector, by means such as, but not limited to:
 - a. Public service announcements (PSAs) on TV,
 - b. Social media and influential people on such platforms,
 - c. Campaigns which will sensitise citizens on donations, world hunger and the sense of fellowship among communities,
 - d. Meetings targeting farmers and other agriculture-sector workers, in order to make them aware of the negative consequences of abusing pesticides and fertilizers;

 5. Encourages the integration of specific activities into school curricula for students, such as research, conferences and seminars, for the purposes of:
-

- a. Making them aware of the negative results of incorrect use of chemical products in the area of agriculture,
 - b. Making them understand the horrible conditions people with no access to food suffer,
 - c. Encouraging them to do their best to help them;
6. Urges Member States to preserve as many seed genes as possible, both by in situ and ex situ conservation, with the aim to:
- a. Collect and safeguard the genetic diversity of seeds and plants,
 - b. Ensure a secure food supply and better life conditions for all, therefore preventing food scarcity and hunger,
 - c. Preserve the nutritional values of crops.
7. Wishes to remain actively seized of the matter.