

**Economic and
Social Council
Plenary Packet
57th Session**



Topic: Biodiversity and Food Security

Submitted to: Economic and Social Council

Submitted by: Economic and Social Council



The Economic and Social Council,

- 1 ACKNOWLEDGING the number of programs that can work in Member States and the need for
- 2 coordination between these groups,
- 3
- 4 AFFIRMING *The Future We Want* and its expressed sentiments about infrastructure being an investment
- 5 in sustainable development,
- 6
- 7 REFERRING to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9 which expresses the need for sustainable
- 8 infrastructure and its importance especially in developing Member States,
- 9
- 10 RECOGNIZING the success of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in
- 11 combating rural poverty in developing countries with focus on country-specific solutions, which have
- 12 involved increased access to markets, technology, land, and other natural resources,
- 13
- 14 BELIEVING that access to clean water for both human consumption and agricultural use is a
- 15 fundamental human right as mentioned in the *Universal Declaration on Human Rights* (UDHR),
- 16
- 17 RECALLING SDGs 2 and 9 in regards to reducing global hunger and creating sustainable infrastructure,
- 18
- 19 KEEPING IN MIND the importance of current UN programs continuing their efforts alongside local
- 20 actors,
- 21
- 22 IMPRESSED BY the positive outcomes of the 2005 World Summit and the 2009/8 ECOSOC resolution
- 23 concerning information sharing in terms of best agricultural practices,
- 24
- 25 REALIZING the often systemic lack of educational resources for vulnerable populations in developing
- 26 countries in implementing best agricultural practices, as codified by section 37 of the World Food
- 27 Programme (WFP) *2017-2021 Strategic Plan*,
- 28
- 29 ACKNOWLEDGING the WFP *2015 Smallholding Report* outlining the vulnerability of food production
- 30 in developing Member States,
- 31
- 32 FURTHER RECALLING the *Paris Agreement* which mentions that reducing deforestation and
- 33 degradation is a vital part in conservation and protecting biodiversity,
- 34
- 35 COGNIZANT of the importance of local government agencies in implementing effective educational
- 36 programs on sustainability efforts, biodiversity protection, and combating climate change,
- 37
- 38 REMINDING Member States of the pledges made at the Conference of the Parties (COP13) regarding
- 39 the effects of carbon emissions on climate change and the increasing role of current agricultural practices
- 40 in the contribution to this issue,
- 41

42 BEARING IN MIND the need for inclusiveness in international talks and summits between all Member
43 States, to ensure communication regarding biodiversity between Member States,

44
45 EMPHASAZING the importance of dialogue and understanding between policy makers and those
46 subjected to such policies,

47
48 RESPECTING the individual attributes of each member state's ecological makeup,

49
50 1. REQUESTS that UN Country Teams work with food oriented funds and programs such as WFP
51 and IFAD to organise their efforts to better achieve food security;

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53 2. RECOMMENDS that United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) partner
54 with the International Development Finance Club (IDFC) and local governments, at the request
55 of a Member State, to build new and improved sustainable roads using sustainable building
56 technologies and building materials to allow rural populations to connect with urban centres
57 while taking into consideration the impacts on biodiversity and vulnerable populations within
58 these rural areas;

59
60 3. ENCOURAGES the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to initiate a program to
61 allow the sharing of best practices in agricultural development within regional and national areas
62 to increase crop yields to elevate production to ensure future food security;

63
64 4. PROMOTES further utilization of IFAD's Community Agriculture Infrastructure Improvement
65 Program to promote the development of nations agricultural infrastructure in remote locations
66 that are currently difficult to access;

67
68 5. INVITES the WFP Food for Assistance for Assets to expand its program to include the
69 construction of wells for irrigation and agricultural purposes;

70
71 6. ENCOURAGES the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
72 (UNESCO) to expand its education efforts, specifically sustainable agricultural practices,
73 especially to vulnerable populations, specifically, individuals that could be, or are, at risk for
74 food insecurity and poverty;

75
76 7. FURTHER REQUESTS that IFAD continue its advising in regards to agricultural education and
77 continue to work directly with the local populations within Member States;

78
79 8. SUGGESTS UNESCO expands its support of Information Communications Technology (ICT)
80 in education and the implementation of technology transfer towards sustainable agricultural
81 practices;

82
83 9. IMPLORES that the Consultative Group for International Agriculture Research (CGIAR) under
84 the IFPRI expand its consultation to include more developing Member States in hopes of
85 increasing education, especially among adults, on sustainable agricultural practices;

86
87 10. ENDORSES the Purchase 4 Food program to gather information for food storage while
88 operating under WFP policies and programs and share best practices with regional and national
89 entities, as well as public and private individuals;

90
91 11. SUPPORTS that the United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and
92 Forest Degradation, the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, and UN-WATER work on a

- 93 national level to initiate alternative agriculture practices to move toward more sustainable
 94 methods to reduce deforestation, desertification and hypoxic areas in major bodies of water in
 95 order to ensure better biodiversity;
 96
- 97 12. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that UN organizations work with local governments and their
 98 existing environmental organizations, or, if none exist, create long-standing agencies within
 99 Member States that are focused on environmental protection, with the goal of the member state's
 100 new agency eventually taking over the sustainable efforts;
 101
- 102 13. URGES all willing and able Member States to mitigate the greenhouse gases resulting from
 103 agricultural practices, such as animal waste and farming equipment, and invest in increased
 104 integration of green technology in farming practices to combat climate change affecting all
 105 Member States in the world;
 106
- 107 14. FURTHER ENCOURAGES the Conference of Parties (COP) under the United Nations
 108 Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to re-evaluate its host locations for
 109 international summits regarding environmental conservation and sustainable farming practices to
 110 allow for regional rotation at state's discretion in tandem with Bretton-Woods associations,
 111 regional development banks, and voluntary private funding for financial assistance;
 112
- 113 15. FURTHER REQUESTS the continuation of research and development for a minimum of five
 114 years to obtain better assessments of long term impacts;
 115
- 116 16. FURTHER REQUESTS the creation of annual regional summit that would gather the regional
 117 offices of the FAO's Farmers' Associations, and representatives of Member States to
 118 ecologically similar regions together to discuss issues relating to biodiversity while integrating
 119 both policymakers and those subject to agricultural regulations and practices;
 120
- 121 17. FURTHER ENCOURAGES the reinstatement of the Assessment of Impacts and Adaptation to
 122 Climate Change (AIACC) to assess the specific needs of each member state and the appropriate
 123 adaptations to promote efficient sustainable agricultural practices;
 124
- 125 18. CALLS UPON all involved, relevant actors, which is cited under SDG-17, private financial
 126 institutions, public governments, and green funds to finance these programs mentioned, and
 127 further encourage regional cooperation.

Topic: Substance Abuse and its Impacts on Global Health

Submitted to: Economic and Social Council

Submitted by: Economic and Social Council



The Economic and Social Council,

- 1 RECALLING Sustainable Development Goal 3, particularly Target 3.5, which states the importance of
2 strengthening the prevention and treatment of substance abuse,
3
- 4 ACKNOWLEDGING General Assembly Resolutions focusing on *Health, Morbidity, Mortality* and
5 development and the importance of recruitment and training of rural health workers,
6
- 7 REMEMBERING the recommendations made in the United Nations General Assembly Special Session
8 on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016) which encourage bilateral and multilateral cooperation to
9 reduce the flow of drugs across participating Member States' borders,
10
- 11 NOTING WITH DEEP CONCERN to the fact that there are circumstances in which not all Member
12 States have the necessary funding to combat illicit drug trafficking or do not have control over their
13 borders, such as in regions experiencing terrorism and those overwhelmed by organized crime, each of
14 which renders those states unable to adequately address the drug trafficking across their borders,
15
- 16 OBSERVING that drug addiction rates and drug related deaths have steadily increased over the past
17 decade, with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) listing amphetamine and opioid
18 usage as the most problematic,
19
- 20 APPRECIATING the contribution of those globally in the medical community willing to aid afflicted
21 populations,
22
- 23 RECOGNIZING the vital impact of permanent integrated care facilities have in terms of substance abuse
24 education and mental health treatment in both prevention and rehabilitation, with such facilities defined
25 as one staffed by licensed medical professionals that seeks to comprehensively address those suffering
26 from drug related health effects including but not required or limited to: health education, medical
27 administration, and social support,
28
- 29 FULLY AWARE of the necessity to combat issues caused by and related to addiction,
30
- 31 UNDERSTANDING some Member States' resistance to the utilization of illicit drugs in the long-term
32 prevention of drug abuse,
33
- 34 COGNIZANT of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on drugs in 1998
35 and the negative impact of substance abuse, as it pertains to social and economic sectors,
36
- 37 RECOGNIZING Chapter II on Alternative Development from the 2015 World Drug Report, regarding
38 the benefits of investing in alternative development and its impact on substance abuse as well as poverty
39 eradication,
40

- 41 BEARING IN MIND the UN Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and its promotion of
 42 holistic policies in relation to creating accessible legal markets,
 43
- 44 1. SUGGESTS the continued partnership of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
 45 (UNODC) and World Health Organization (WHO) to implement prevention and treatment
 46 programs in existing local clinics to address the issue of substance and alcohol abuse;
 47
 - 48 2. REQUESTS that UNESCO utilize Technical and Vocational Education and Training
 49 (TVET) to implement local vocational training in basic medical practices for community
 50 health workers especially in rural areas to address public health concerns, such as substance
 51 abuse and HIV/AIDS;
 52
 - 53 3. SUGGESTS that Member States create more regional partnerships regarding drug
 54 trafficking across common borders, with cooperation between international organizations
 55 and Member States as well as between individual Member States;
 56
 - 57 4. EXPRESSES its hope that the UN will re-evaluate international drug control treaties, in
 58 particular, the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, which prevents nations from
 59 exercising their sovereignty and from attempting modernized reform to end substance abuse
 60 and drug trafficking;
 61
 - 62 5. CALLS UPON the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to, upon the
 63 request of Member States, expand, strengthen, and further specify efforts in funding and
 64 training concerning the control and the hopeful elimination of drug trafficking across borders
 65 in Member States with terrorism and organized crime or that lack proper resources to protect
 66 their own borders;
 67
 - 68 6. ASKS that the WHO work with mobile care facilities such as those operating under the Red
 69 Cross, to provide a geographically flexible solution to the problems of drug use;
 70
 - 71 7. SUGGESTS that the UNODC works with non-governmental organizations, such as Doctors
 72 Without Borders, work in tandem with the WHO to provide care to people struggling with
 73 addiction via mental health assessments and pertinent drug prescription;
 74
 - 75 8. ENCOURAGES the UNODC to conduct studies on Member States currently using
 76 integrated care facilities to treat drug addiction and its effects, such as increased sexually
 77 transmitted infections resulting from increased unprotected intercourse, conducted annually
 78 or twice a year depending on the country, and its results shall be available to any and all
 79 institutions who desire it;
 80
 - 81 9. RECOMMENDS Member States support the prevention of the negative societal
 82 consequences of drug addiction by allowing for the storage of prophylactics, birth control
 83 medication, and any necessary medical instruments that a Member State deems legal and
 84 sufficient to deliver addiction related care in the care facilities with Member States having
 85 oversight over care facilities in their respective country;
 86
 - 87 10. PROPOSES the prescribed use of what Member States deem legal alternatives, such as
 88 naloxone and suboxone, which have proven to be efficient in facilitating large numbers of
 89 overdose reversals and reducing the symptoms of opiate addiction and withdrawal,
 90 respectively;
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11. ENCOURAGES the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to expand its education efforts to emphasize the effects of drugs, especially in areas with high levels of illicit drug production;
 12. RECOMMENDS the International Fund of Agricultural Development (IFAD) expand its funding of sustainable agricultural practices, expressly within developing countries and among vulnerable populations with regard to the social and political climate of these areas, to address the implementation of alternative development;
 13. IMPLORES that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) increase its educational efforts regarding alternative agricultural practices, specifically among vulnerable populations to combat the production of illicit drugs;
 14. CALLS UPON the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to expand its partnerships with Governments and the private sector to facilitate the sale of alternative development products, providing access to legal national and international markets;
 15. CALLS FOR the International Association of Public Transport, the secretariat of the international Narcotics Control, the International Police Organization, and other regional NGOs and IGOs in oversight of transnational shipments susceptible to drug trafficking originating in areas that reflect increased susceptibility to substance abuse and production;
 16. REQUESTS further research to track patterns of drug trafficking in orders to prevent access to substances commonly abused globally contingent on data gathered through seizure, conducted by Interpol and state port authorities of transnational shipments of illicit substance to improve the annual report of the distribution and frequency of specific substances globally at Member States’ discretion.

Topic: Improving International Cooperation in Burden-Sharing

Submitted to: Economic and Social Council

Submitted by: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

- 1 RECALLING the *1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees*, which defines refugees
- 2 as individuals fleeing conflict or persecution who are protected by international law with distinct
- 3 rights,
- 4
- 5 REAFFIRMING the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, with reference to Article 25: right
- 6 to an adequate standard of living,
- 7
- 8 EMPHASIZING the importance of cooperation and contribution both monetary and physical
- 9 assistance to the UNHCR,
- 10
- 11 REALIZING that national sovereignty is of the utmost importance, keeping in line with Article
- 12 52 of the *Charter of the United Nations*,
- 13
- 14 DEEPLY CONCERNED about the state of the refugee crises plaguing the world today,
- 15 reflected by startling figures such as the presence of 16.1 million refugees under UNHCR
- 16 jurisdiction,
- 17
- 18 EMPHASIZING the importance of establishing a response platform that can be used on a case
- 19 by case basis such as the platforms outlined recently by the Kingdom of Jordan,
- 20
- 21 BELIEVING that internal organization and cohesion through formal processes is best suited to
- 22 handle individual Member States' portion of the refugee crisis,
- 23
- 24 NOTING that these above mechanisms, which have been proven to work through examples
- 25 such as international acclaim for the coordination and speedy processing of Kosovar refugees in
- 26 the late 1990s, will be effective more than normative approaches,
- 27
- 28 RECALLING that the best means of relating Member States to their people is through internal
- 29 volunteerism, as shown through instances of volunteer work of organizations such as the World
- 30 Food Program USA in Syria,
- 31
- 32 GUIDED BY the efforts of prior UNHCR policy such as the Policy on Refugee Protection and
- 33 Solutions in Urban Areas created in 2009, also known as the United Nation's Safer Cities
- 34 programme, which creates a holistic approach to improving living quality particularly in urban
- 35 areas for refugees,
- 36

37 ACKNOWLEDGING the significance of S/RES/2191, which enabled cross-border entry of
38 humanitarian assistance into Syria, and its value to future frameworks,
39

40 CONVINCED that efforts to counter discrimination and promote social integration, as described
41 in the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination*, particularly in
42 Member States accepting refugees, will lessen the burden to host communities by improving the
43 self-sufficiency and capacity for refugees to contribute to their new societies,
44

45 SEEKING Member States to equitably share in the refugee crisis through recognizing incentives
46 deriving from the positive impact skilled refugee communities can have on host economies,
47

48 ALARMED by the regulations blocking military intervention that would provide safe
49 transportation of refugees,
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51 CONVINCED that non-governmental organizations (NGO)s are too underfunded to be able to
52 transport refugees in a safe manner,
53

54 EMPHASIZING the importance of regional cooperation among Member States for the purpose
55 of effective transportation of refugees,
56

57 CONCERNED by the unavailability and unsafe options of transport for refugees seeking
58 passage to regions of asylum,
59

60 NOTING with satisfaction the success of third site resettlement and its value as a viable option
61 for refugees seeking asylum,
62

63 CONCERNED by the continued decline of income, as noted by the UNHCR's report from the
64 Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan, for UNHCR programs, which has also been reported by
65 Financial Tracking Service, in light of the rapid increase in the number of people displaced by
66 conflict per day since 2010 which has placed a higher burden on countries with high refugee
67 populations,
68

69 RECOGNIZING the need for a deliberative body to oversee the dispersal of aide from
70 established funds,
71

72 NOTING the empirical successes, claimed by the Beyond Proof's 2013 Credibility Assessment
73 of the European Union's asylum system, of regional funding mechanisms and actions, like the
74 European Union (EU) Refugee Fund for European nations prior to 2013, compared to their
75 international counterparts,
76

77 RECOGNIZING the EU's Refugee Fund's success, based on the Beyond Proof Credibility
78 Assessment of the European asylum system, in empowering nations to share burdens by
79 encouraging nations to take in more refugees by accommodating the development of
80 infrastructure, improving structures and training for accepting asylum seekers, providing legal
81 and social assistance to refugees, empowering refugees with skills and language training, and
82 progressing resettlement operation between EU nations,

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1. URGES the 1951 *United Nations Convention on Refugees* to be recognized universally;
2. ENCOURAGES the development of a baseline standard of living for current refugee camps and adequate resources to fulfil that standard,
 - a. Which includes the distinctions to the standard of living in Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing, and medical care,”
 - b. This standard of living also includes sanitation, management, and appropriate size of refugee camps and access to the basic needs such as these enumerated in Article 25;
3. REMINDS Member States to take a holistic, rights-based approach for protecting refugees which also recognizes their positive contributions to economic, social, and cultural development;
4. PROCLAIMS that national sovereignty is a key mandate of the United Nations and cannot be infringed upon at any cost in addressing this issue;
5. AFFIRMS the necessity of engaging all relevant actors on the international stage in combatting this refugee crisis including Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and International Governmental Organizations (IGOs);
6. ENDORSES the oversight of UNHCR actions that stress increased speed and processing of links between NGOs, IGOs, and Governmental Organizations in terms of cooperation as seen in the Jordan Response Platform to be utilized by any and all nations who so desire its implementation internally by dedicated UNHCR staff to the aforementioned purpose;
7. ENCOURAGES Member States to create refugee boards similar to Ghana’s Refugee Board which,
 - a. Vets humanitarian visa applicants, processes internal asylum seekers, interviews refugees seeking humanitarian visas, and oversees the structures and functions of internal refugee camps to structure the burden placed on Member States by refugee crises,
 - b. Notes that these boards are meant to be used for organizational purposes within nations with a great many humanitarian visa applicants, asylum seekers, and refugee camps;
8. ENCOURAGES increased collaboration in burden sharing among governments, NGOs, and IGOs through increased monetary engagement, personnel sharing, exercise of its

- 129 functions, and through any other means possible to ensure the most effective outcome
 130 through these proven means;
 131
- 132 9. CALLS UPON the Member States of the UNHCR to engage with the existing
 133 communities of reintegrated or resettled refugees and encourage them to use their civic
 134 voices within host countries to best aid the refugee resettlement process either through
 135 feedback or direct work with incoming refugees as they best understand the refugees’
 136 plight;
 137
- 138 10. URGES the continuation of the work of United Nation’s Safer Cities program and
 139 providing documentation of the progress made within this entity;
 140
- 141 11. SUPPORTS the voluntary adoption of prior frameworks established by the Security
 142 Council to enable cross-border entry of approved humanitarian assistance in all areas
 143 experiencing an influx of refugees, displaced peoples, and asylum seekers while
 144 concurrently respecting the sovereignty of fellow Member States;
 145
- 146 12. ENDORSES efforts to counter discrimination by promoting tolerance and inclusion
 147 between refugees and their host communities through public awareness campaigns, and
 148 fostering social ties through integrated community programs,
 149
- 150 a. Encourages public awareness campaigns through numerous forms depending on
 151 the preferences of Member States, such as public service announcements, poster
 152 displays, educational programs, and integration with social activities,
 153
- 154 b. Highlights within campaigns how refugees can benefit specific communities with
 155 contributions to economic and social development,
 156
- 157 c. Aims to achieve stronger social ties and community networks, as well as
 158 promoting ideals of peace, justice, solidarity, non-violence, and tolerance;
 159
- 160 13. ENCOURAGES recognition of valuable skills and training of refugees that can be used
 161 in resettlement,
 162
- 163 a. Endorses the integration of refugees with valuable skills developed in their home
 164 member state into resettlement within the host member’s workforce,
 165
- 166 b. Further invites the creation of pathways for skilled refugees to have access to
 167 training to prepare them to work in their host culture and society,
 168
- 169 c. Emphasizes the importance of available education in the host member state with
 170 the goal of integrating refugees into the workforce,
 171
- 172 d. Welcomes Member States to design vocational training programs specific to their
 173 industrial needs,
 174

- 175 e. Draws attention to the benefits of an integrated refugee work force in economic
 176 growth;
 177
- 178 14. RECOMMENDS the cooperation amongst nations through the strengthening of current
 179 regional forums;
 180
- 181 15. ENCOURAGES the safe transit of refugees to nations that are not in close geographical
 182 proximity but that are still willing to accept refugees- Referencing the success of the
 183 Federation of Evangelical Churches in Italy (FCEI) which establishes a protective
 184 humanitarian corridor across long geographical distances and sets up asylum centers in
 185 the host country that offers integration programs;
 186
- 187 16. CALLS FOR the increased usage of third site resettlement as a means of assisting
 188 refugees seeking asylum;
 189
- 190 17. ENCOURAGES all willing and able Member States, especially developed nations, to
 191 increase their contributions to the UNHCR in accordance with their financial capabilities
 192 to ease the burden on countries willing to physical resettle refugees who may be lacking
 193 necessary funds to care for refugee populations;
 194
- 195 18. ENDORSES the establishment of regional forums operated by the UNHCR including
 196 Member States to disburse funding and create clarity of the regional framework,
 197
- 198 a. Forums will be held quarterly with all the Member States falling within
 199 UNHCR's declared sub-regions,
 200
 - 201 b. Funding will be dispersed to sub-regions based on need and to Member States
 202 based on their demonstrated need,
 203
 - 204 c. Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) such as, Cooperative of Assistance and
 205 Relief Everywhere (CARE), Save the Children, Right to Past, and the
 206 International Committee of the Red Cross, will be invited at the request of
 207 Member States,
 208
 - 209 d. Willing Member States may also work with UN programmes, like the UNHCR's
 210 Asylum and Migration Unit, and NGOs like the International Organization for
 211 Migration (IOM) to safely transport refugees;
 212
- 213 19. CALLS FOR the creation of regional funds, modelled on the European Union's Refugee
 214 Fund, to be overseen by the UNHCR to provide structured and targeted funding for the
 215 dispersal of economic burdens,
 216
- 217 a. Split the funding by regions based on the UNHCR's sub-regional structure,
 218
 - 219 b. Funding will come from the UNHCR general fund, and all willing NGOs and
 220 private funds,

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- c. Funds will be distributed to regions based on financial need and their refugee intake.

**Topic: Improving Regional Cooperation on the issue of
Natural Disasters**

Submitted to: Economic and Social Council

Submitted by: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



The Economic and Social Council,

- 1 ACKNOWLEDGING the empiric effectiveness of regional forums, like the Regional Forum on
2 Environment and Health in Southeast and East Asian Countries that brought cooperation on research and
3 action in the region,
4
- 5 RECOGNIZING United Nations/International Strategy for Disaster Reduction 2004 *Living with*
6 *Risk: A Global Review of Disaster Reduction Initiatives*, which notes the effects of natural
7 disasters disproportionately affect Less Developed Countries (LDCs) with 90% of lives lost due
8 to natural disasters being in less developed nations,
9
- 10 NOTING the devastating impacts of natural disasters and weather related events discussed in
11 the United Nation's High Commissioner for Refugee's (UNHCR) Strategic Direction 2017-
12 2021,
13
- 14 AFFIRMING the dedication of the UNHCR in aiding those affected by natural disasters as
15 noted by the UNCHR's Policy Development and Evaluation Resources discussing UNHCR's
16 action in response to natural disasters,
17
- 18 1. ENDORSES the establishment of regional forums to target issues dealing with
19 internally displaced peoples and environmental refugees from weather related events
20 and natural disasters operated by the UNHCR, placing emphasis on internal preparation
21 of nations, ensuring less developed nations have access to resources and preparedness
22 plans, the development of regional response plans for natural disaster and weather
23 related events, and the main issues to be focused upon with all willing and able Member
24 States and Non-Governmental Organizations such as the Cooperative for Assistance
25 and Relief Everywhere (CARE), the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the
26 World Bank, to disburse funding and create clarity of the regional framework,
27
 - 28 a. Forums will be held semiannually with all the nations falling within
29 UNHCR's declared sub-regions,
30
 - 31 b. Non-Governmental Organizations will be invited at the request of Member
32 States within regions;
33
 - 34 2. ENCOURAGES the newly established regional forums to support LDCs in the face of
35 natural disasters to ensure the impact on citizens is mitigated by providing cooperative
36 aide and the development of regional response plans to natural disasters and weather
37 related events;

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3. **STRONGLY ENCOURAGES** a cooperative response based on the decisions of regional forums from the Member States falling within the newly established sub-regional forums in the event of crises like water shortages and famines to alleviate their devastating effects;
4. **EXPRESSES ITS HOPE** that regional forums will help in terms of topics being addressed by Member States, within the UNHCR, and the dispersal of aide in dealing with the effects of natural disasters.

**Topic: Improving Regional Cooperation on the Issue of
Natural Disasters**

Submitted to: Economic and Social Council

Submitted by: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

- 1 BEARING IN MIND every Member State's national sovereignty and the vital ground it provides in
- 2 international cooperation as stated in the United Nations Charter, which emphasizes international peace
- 3 and cooperation,
- 4
- 5 EMPHASIZING the points of consideration regarding environmental refugees articulated in the *Paris*
- 6 *Agreement*, which references the direct correlation between environmental causation for the creation of
- 7 migrants and the express need to protect people displaced by environmental disaster and degradation in
- 8 the same manner that refugees receive this protection,
- 9
- 10 RECOGNIZING the importance of creating a United Nations adopted definition of an environmental
- 11 refugee for the purpose of expanding the United Nation High Commission for Refugee's (UNHCR)
- 12 ability to more inclusively address issues pertaining to environmental refugees,
- 13
- 14 NOTING that the specific components distinguished by the International Organization for Migration
- 15 (IOM) in defining an environmental refugee and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are paramount to
- 16 creating a United Nations sponsored definition,
- 17
- 18 ALSO NOTING the critical distinction between the four types of environmental refugees and IDPs the
- 19 IOM has already iterated as it best aids the international community in understanding the best manner in
- 20 which to help specific cases of refugees,
- 21
- 22 ACKNOWLEDGING that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- 23 currently does not recognize environmental refugees,
- 24
- 25 RECOGNIZING the need to secure funding for programs providing assistance for environmental
- 26 refugees from sources outside of UNHCR mandate,
- 27
- 28 DEEPLY CONCERNED with the alarming rate at which natural disasters are occurring, increasing the
- 29 number of displaced persons,
- 30
- 31 ACKNOWLEDGING the influence geography has on the diverse challenges faced by Member States in
- 32 regional cooperation,
- 33
- 34 AWARE OF the importance of cooperation between the United Nations (UN) and local data-collection
- 35 entities,
- 36
- 37 RECOGNIZING the need for the accurate and concise acquisition of regional and international weather
- 38 data,
- 39

40 NOTING WITH DEEP CONCERN the knowledge gap regarding data on gradual environmental
 41 degradation such as drought and desertification leading to slow onset disasters and resource scarcity,
 42 which forces migration over time,
 43

44 EMPHASIZING the need for more technology transfer to improve humanitarian response based on
 45 environmental factors established in the UNFCCC, as well as information-sharing that relates migration
 46 to the environment and natural disasters,
 47

48 DEEPLY CONCERNED that the lack of framework regarding environmental refugees encourages the
 49 illegal migration of affected persons,
 50

- 51 1. REITERATES that Article 52 of the *Charter of the United Nations* takes absolute precedence;
 52
- 53 2. CALLS UPON Member States to recognize the paramount distinctions made in the *Paris*
 54 *Agreement* in the process of defining environmental refugees and Internally Displaced Persons
 55 (IDPs);
 56
- 57 3. ENDORSES a UN sponsored legal definition of an environmental refugee and IDP due to the
 58 lack of existing legal frameworks that apply to these people, which excludes them from
 59 processes such as humanitarian visa applications in certain Member States;
 60
- 61 4. REQUESTS that the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly formally define an
 62 environmental refugee as, “Environmental migrants are persons or groups of persons who for
 63 compelling reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment that adversely affects
 64 their live or living conditions, are obliged to leave their habitual homes, or choose to do so,
 65 either temporarily or permanently, and who move either within their country or abroad” as
 66 defined by the IOM in *Discussion Note: Migration and Environment*;
 67
- 68 5. FURTHER REQUESTS that the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly expands this
 69 definition by adoption of the IOM’s distinction amongst types of refugees as: “those who are
 70 affected by early stages of environmental change and degradation, those who are affected by late
 71 stages of environmental change and degradation, those who are affected by extreme
 72 environmental events for example, people displaced by the Haitian earthquake, and those who
 73 migrate due to large amounts of land development and conservation;”
 74
- 75 6. RECOMMENDS to all Member States that the UNFCCC be updated to include the suggested
 76 definition for environmental refugees;
 77
- 78 7. ENCOURAGES the UNFCCC to make funding available for programs aimed at preventing the
 79 creation of and aiding current environmental refugees through its Adaptation Fund;
 80
- 81 8. STRONGLY ENCOURAGES nations to donate monetary aid and resources to Non-
 82 Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that assist environmentally displaced persons relocate to
 83 nations that have been deemed accepting and safe due to the increasing rate of those that are
 84 being displaced every day;
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- 86 9. ENCOURAGES the utilization of further meteorological research to gather more information on
 87 weather patterns and appropriate responses to the expanding desert that also facilitates
 88 cooperation with local people;

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10. CALLS UPON the Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DELIC) and the Executive Committee for the Warsaw International Mechanism and sub-research entities to facilitate regional and international data collection on environmental degradation, rising sea levels, and manners of prevention of environmental hardship;
 11. RECOMMENDS partnerships with the public and private sector entities across the globe to contribute to an international research forum and data collection site providing a platform for cohesive international dialogue on weather change and climate patterns;
 12. ENCOURAGES Member States to aid developing countries by building humanitarian capacity through a transfer of technology and expertise in order to improve response to natural disasters, utilizing initiatives such as the Memorandum of Understanding which promotes cooperation between South Africa and China.

Topic: Corporate Social Responsibility and the Environment

Submitted to: Economic and Social Council

Submitted by: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development



The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

- 1 NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the efforts of the international community to combat climate
2 change in the Paris Conference of 2015 through the reduction of CO₂ emissions,
3
4 BEARING IN MIND the *Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human*
5 *Environment*, and its emphasis on the protection and improvement of the human environment,
6
7 AFFIRMING the *United Nations Global Compact*, especially principles 7-9, which draw
8 attention to corporate social responsibility and the environment,
9
10 REFERRING TO Sustainable Development Goal 12, espoused in *Transforming our World: The*
11 *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, which emphasizes the importance of ensuring
12 sustainable consumption and production patterns within businesses,
13
14 NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the work of the UN Conference on Trade and Development
15 (UNCTAD)'s Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of
16 Accounting and Reporting to promote the best practices in international corporate reporting,
17
18 KEEPING IN MIND the right of self-determination of all Member States, mentioned in Article
19 2 of the *United Nations Charter*, and their individual capacity,
20
21 EMPHASIZING the importance of education in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
22 programs such as the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative,
23
24 REITERATING the importance of reliable and transparent reporting on CSR practices within
25 companies,
26
27 CONCERNED WITH the inability of local and small corporations in developing countries to
28 adhere to environmental standards and implement CSR policies within their business model,
29
30 REITERATING those points outlined in *A/RES/71/134* which states the need to increase the
31 capacity, especially as it relates to judicial capabilities, of TCCs as to ensure they are fairly and
32 effectively trying their peacekeepers of alleged misconduct,
33
34 1. CALLS UPON all relevant actors to which includes Member States, Non-Governmental
35 Organizations and any willing party entities create knowledge-sharing and technical

- 36 experience spaces to expand on the best CSR practices and make more accessible to small
 37 and medium enterprises through,
- 38 a. Knowledge sharing space by local and regional forums which would include open
 39 discussion between businesses,
- 40 b. Knowledge sharing by conferences and summits sponsored by UNCTAD which would
 41 include education on CSR policies and finance and meeting with international financial
 42 institutions,
- 43 c. Knowledge sharing by educational exchange programs, which would invite the
 44 academia (economists, scientists; policy and technology experts) to educate in how to
 45 implements CSR policies including forums (local and regional), international
 46 conferences and summits, and educational exchange programs;
- 47
- 48 2. REQUESTS all relevant economic actors to provide assistance and encouragement for small
 49 and medium enterprises to develop CSR instruments into core strategies through loans,
 50 grants, investment, and technical assistance-such aid can be provided by national, regional,
 51 and international financial institutions;
- 52
- 53 3. INVITES Member States to develop and corporations to implement socially responsible
 54 policies such as safe working conditions, ethical pay, and advocacy for equal rights of
 55 demographic sub-groups to reap economic and productivity benefits while promoting the
 56 livelihood of local communities;
- 57
- 58 4. ENCOURAGES Member States to be transparent about CSR concerning international
 59 standards and guidelines, such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and
 60 Development (OECD) guidelines and International Organization for Standardisation (IOS)
 61 standards, through reliable reporting and universally comprehensive indicators;
- 62
- 63 5. SUGGESTS that UNCTAD issue a report regarding indicators used to measure
 64 environmental standards and CSR in order to increase capacity for Member States through;
- 65
- 66 a. The measurement of the effectiveness of the current indicators for the following
 67 categories: Trade and Investment, Employment creation and Labour Practices,
 68 Technology and Human Resource Development, Health and Safety, Government and
 69 Community Contributions, and Corruption,
- 70
- 71 b. Funding from the UN Global Compact,
- 72
- 73 c. A decrease in fraudulent reporting on environmental and CSR policies,
- 74
- 75 d. An annual basis,
- 76
- 77 e. A focus on regional reporting,
- 78
- 79 f. The results of the report will be used to make the appropriate analysis in the next
 80 UNCTAD Summit and pertinent changes to the indicators will be agreed upon;
- 81

- 82 6. ENDORSES the open dialogue and coordination with relevant external actors to increase
83 the efficacy of knowledge-sharing and technical assistance to provide to small and medium
84 enterprises for the implementation of CSR practices.

Topic: Corporate Social Responsibility and the Environment

Submitted to: Economic and Social Council

Submitted by: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development



The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

- 1
2 ACKNOWLEDGING the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which
3 states the importance of protecting and preserving oceans and marine life,
4
5 CALLING ATTENTION to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which has
6 provided evidence of the devastation hypoxic areas have caused on marine biodiversity and the
7 subsequent consequences felt by impoverished peoples,
8
9 ENDORSING the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and funding partner in efforts to
10 evoke socially responsible practices in regards to the ocean and major bodies of water, in
11 accordance with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12,
12
13 RECOGNIZING the work of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in raising awareness and
14 education about biodiversity, specifically polyculture,
15
16 DEPLOYING the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) under UNCLOS,
17 which has been at the forefront of mitigating oceanic hazards,
18
19 EMPHASIZING the need for an international framework to address the lack of consensus
20 regarding the use of hazardous agricultural chemicals,
21
22 1. CONFIRMS the importance of protecting and preserving oceans as the marine
23 resources and life within it play a vital role in economic, social and cultural wellbeing
24 as outlined in the UNCLOS and, therefore, encourages coastal states to protect their
25 marine environments;
26
27 2. CONSIDERS hypoxic areas in the ocean a threat to marine biodiversity and observes
28 the current biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction negotiations and asks the High
29 Seas Alliance to provide environmental impact statements regarding marine
30 biodiversity, including,
31
32 a. The importance of biodiversity in alleviating poverty as endorsed by the CBD,
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34 b. How marine biodiversity incentivizes economic growth as endorsed by the
35 CBD,
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37 c. Prioritization of the most affected areas in regards to hypoxia;

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3. CALLS UPON the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the IMO to call together a conference by 2018 for the purpose of gathering the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and International Fund for Agricultural Development, and relevant corporations in an effort to promote corporations to be socially responsible by reducing the negative impacts of chemical contaminants in the Earth's oceans and major bodies of water;
4. ENCOURAGES Member States to reduce use of harmful agricultural chemicals and excessive fertilizers and the responsible use of chemicals proven to be environmentally safe;
5. PROMOTES the education and training in the implementation and use of polyculture and organic fertilizers to ensure the continuation of successful crop cultivation, in accordance with SDG 4, in the hopes of reducing the amount of hypoxic areas caused by pollution from human activities, based on upon existing policies of NGOs such as GEF and the Natural Resource Defense Council,
 - a. The education of polyculture and organic fertilizers should be through public awareness campaigns,
 - b. Training in integrated coastal and marine management and sustainable development should be directed towards coastal states;
6. CALLS UPON international organizations such as the IOC of UNESCO to support coastal states in the promotion of sustainable environmental practices in regard to hypoxia in major bodies of water;
7. NOTES the need for framework for reducing hazardous agricultural chemicals specific to geographic regions facilitated by NGOs such as, but not limited to, the Wildlife Conservation Society, Friends of the Earth, and Conservation International.

Topic: Access to Markets for Rural Populations

Submitted to: Economic and Social Council

Submitted by: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development



The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

- 1 EMPHASIZING Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2, which address the need to end
2 poverty and hunger by increasing market access for rural and indigenous populations,
3
- 4 RECALLING *A/RES/59/209* and *A/RES/67/221*, which call for smoother transitions for States
5 that are graduating from the Least Developed Countries (LDC) status,
6
- 7 HAVING EXAMINED the need for cooperatives in developing Member States that could
8 promote sustainable development by means of education, mentoring, and financial assistance to
9 rural communities,
10
- 11 REITERATING Sustainable Development Goal 17 on the importance of developing partnership
12 for the implementation of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,
13
- 14 RECOGNIZING the framework created by the Alliance Group, a cooperative which has
15 increased market access,
16
- 17 NOTING THE NEED for sustainable, long-term solutions in agricultural communities that
18 create industry and economic growth,
19
- 20 REAFFIRMING Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 9, which promote sustainable economic
21 growth and sustainable industrialization,
22
- 23 RECOGNIZING that cooperatives can be developed on a shareholder basis which allows for
24 each shareholder to profit and decide on the direction of product quality, monetary surplus
25 investment, and how production can be altered to better achieve efficiency,
26
- 27 HAVING CONSIDERED the *International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and*
28 *Agriculture*, which aims to ensure food security through the sustainable use of agricultural
29 resources,
30
- 31 RECOGNIZING the impact of conflict on trade routes, the security of rural communities, and
32 the potential foreign direct investment,
33
- 34 KEEPING IN MIND the work of the United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database,
35 which collects data concerning trade, tariffs, and imports within regions,
36

37 SEEKING to end the exploitation of merchants on workers who cannot physically reach
38 competitive marketplaces,

39

40 AFFIRMING the Global Forum for Leaders Agricultural Science and Technology, which was
41 initiated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to share information
42 regarding effective agricultural practices,

43

44 1. CALLS UPON the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division
45 of Social Policy and Cooperatives in partnership with the Global Partnership for
46 Effective Development Cooperation to establish agricultural cooperatives in developing
47 Member States in accordance with the 8th and 9th Sustainable Development Goals;

48

49 2. ENCOURAGES the use of knowledge-sharing and technical experience spaces to
50 inform smallholders of market trends and sustainable and productive practices in
51 cooperation with actors such as academia, or non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
52 such as those that conduct educational exchange programs;

53

54 3. CALLS FOR regional, national, and local partnership with regional organizations such
55 as the African Union, the Union of South American Nations, the Organization of
56 American States, and the Arab League, among others, to facilitate technical assistance
57 and the creation of forums to inform smallholders on financing mechanisms including
58 investment, credit, equity funds, et al;

59

60 4. ESTABLISHES an international summit to be named the Global Forum for Leaders in
61 Agricultural Science and Technology in which NGOs and heads of state come together
62 to exchange knowledge and policy in order to educate Member States officials on
63 strategies to approach rural development;

64

65 5. ENDORSES use of the United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database to
66 determine the prioritization of Member States for transportation infrastructure;

67

68 6. INVITES actors within the private sector to contribute in the investment of infrastructure
69 programs, taking into account the examination from the International Development
70 Finance Club on financing sustainable infrastructure;

71

72 7. ENCOURAGES the disbursement of infrastructural loans to countries who meet the
73 following criterion: transparency in loan allocation, meets loan eligibility requirements
74 specific to the respective provider, and requested amount of the loan;

75

76 8. RECOMMENDS the continuation of government programs that contribute to the
77 construction of physical infrastructure in developing countries for the purpose of ease of
78 transportation;

79

80 9. CALLS FOR relevant United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations
81 Environmental Program and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to
82 provide information on environment and territorial conditions for the construction of

- 83 infrastructure, including: roads, bridges, communication, railways, etc. and distribute
84 information among investors, constructing firms, governments, and other relevant actors
85 who might require it;
86
- 87 10. SUGGESTS relevant financial institutions such as national, bilateral and multilateral
88 development banks, private institutions, equity funds, and environmental or climate
89 funds to contribute to designated infrastructure programs, the investments of micro
90 farmers, and other economic groups or entities that would facilitate an increase in market
91 participation;
92
- 93 11. REQUESTS the provision of duty free and quota free market access for LDCs for export
94 expansion to increase the role of smallholders in the regional value chains and therefore
95 increase their access to markets;
96
- 97 12. CALLS FOR lenders to employ an intermediary to ensure that loans are used with
98 purpose and that risk of corruption is minimized;
99
- 100 13. CALLS ON the UNDP to issue annual reports specifically for the benefit of expanding
101 rural market access using indicators including institutional strength, election
102 transparency, corruption, rule of law, income equality, education, and demographic
103 diversity;
104
- 105 14. RECOMMENDS that solicited, regional organizations ensure their engagement during
106 the transition of countries graduating from LDC status in an attempt to ensure economic
107 stability;
108
- 109 15. ENCOURAGES financial support from stable nations be given to countries frequently in
110 a state of conflict for the purpose of humanitarian aid and infrastructure repair.

Topic: Access to Markets for Rural Populations

Submitted to: Economic and Social Council

Submitted by: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development



The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

- 1 BEARING IN MIND the role of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
2 and their representation of an international commitment to reduce the number of people who
3 live in extreme poverty,
4
- 5 REAFFIRMING Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2, which states the importance of
6 access to a fair and healthy market in rural communities, as imperative to containing hunger
7 within those regions,
8
- 9 RECOGNIZING the sovereignty of individual Member States in regards to foreign investment,
10 both public and private,
11
- 12 FURTHER RECOGNIZING that a region's infrastructure is directly correlated to economic
13 stability, and that development of infrastructure is under ownership of the state according to
14 state sovereignty,
15
- 16 AWARE OF the accomplishments of the International Fund for Agricultural Development
17 (IFAD) in their attempts to eliminate rural poverty by empowering the people of rural regions,
18
- 19 CONCERNED BY the disadvantages rural populations face such as a lack of tradable, high
20 value goods and/or commodities, a lack of education in regards to rural populations
21 understanding the ever-enhancing global markets,
22
- 23 1. ENCOURAGES non-governmental agencies (NGOs) specializing in agricultural
24 development in least developed countries (LDCs) to participate in knowledge-sharing
25 with regards to helping rural populations understand the complex, ever changing global
26 market and provide local entrepreneurs within those rural populations with basic
27 education in modernizing their agriculture, including,
28
 - 29 a. Educational excursions to rural populations,
 - 30
 - 31 b. In accordance with legislation of the standing country;
 - 32
 - 33 2. SUGGESTS the international community become fully aware of the devastating effect
34 of economic measures as a political weapon in eliminating market access to rural
35 populations including, but not limited to, the follow measures,
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 - 37 a. Trade embargoes on common goods,

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- b. Economic sanctions,
 - c. Travel bans;
3. RECOMMENDS countries give rural populations attempting to gain access to markets an advantage by promoting the industrial production of hemp, a high-value, tradable cash crop, or development of natural resources, such as oil, in those rural areas only by,
- a. Per state sovereignty, allowing those Member States to determine the definition and location of rural populations, but recommending that those States consider the IFAD guidelines for rural populations,
 - b. Per state sovereignty and international memberships, determining their own national regulations in the production, distribution, transportation, and/or industrial production of the valuable crop or natural resources,
 - c. Per state sovereignty following national policies for worker rights;
4. STRONGLY ENCOURAGES foreign investment through private corporations from developed nations, who have already legalized industrial hemp use or are contemplating legalization themselves, to consider trading directly with the rural populations growing the extremely valuable crop in exchange for investment in service infrastructure includes the development of,
- a. Road and railways,
 - b. Lines of Communication;
5. CALLS FOR regional, national, and local partnership with organizations such as the African Union, Union of South American Nations, the Organization of American States, the Arab League, among others, to facilitate technical assistance and the creation of forums to inform smallholders on financing mechanisms, per state sovereignty and international memberships.