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**Documentation of the Work of the Food and
Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

Committee Supervised by:

Olufolajimi Otitoola (Deputy Secretary-General)

Ima-Abasi Emmanuel Ubong-Abasi (Under-Secretary-General Research)

Rafiat Shittu (Under-Secretary-General for the Development Department)

Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)

Committee Staff

Chair	Oludayo Olufowobi
Vice-Chair	Phitami Niyo
Researcher I	Joseph Olajugba
Researcher II	Tolu Ajiboye

Agenda

- I. Climate Change and Food Security
- II. Ensuring Equality in the demand and supply of food produce.

Resolutions Adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
FAO 1/1	Climate Change and Food Security	Adopted by acclamation
FAO 1/2	Climate Change and Food Security	Adopted by acclamation
FAO 1/3	Climate Change and Food Security	Adopted by acclamation

Summary Report

The Food and Agricultural Organization Committee held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Climate Change and Food Security
- II. Ensuring equality in the demand and supply of food produce.

The committee session was attended by representatives of 16 Member States. On Monday, the Committee adopted the Agenda I and II, in that order. After which, the committee began discussion on the topic of “Climate change and Food Security”. By the end of committee session on Monday, country representatives had started forming blocs to create working papers on sub-topics of the topic discussed.

On Tuesday, the committee continued discussion on the first agenda. Three blocs were formed, and Member States started drafting solutions for the working papers of their respective blocs. The blocs were centred on empowering low-income food-deficit countries to achieve food security, ensuring gender participation in tackling climate change and achieving food security and leveraging technology to tackle climate change and achieve food security respectively. They collaborated on drafting practical solutions for these working papers and submitted their first draft by 7 pm. The Dais reviewed and gave comments, which were resolved by bloc members.

On Wednesday, there were no committee sessions. Rather, representatives of Member States attended Sustainable Development Goal Sessions on SDG 5- Gender Equality, SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. After which, there was an idea fair for representatives of Member States to propose innovative solutions to address issues in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Lastly, there was a leadership session for all delegates to attend.

On Thursday, committee sessions resumed fully. The committee continued with deliberations on Agenda I. Delegates continued improving on their working papers and sponsors of these working papers tried to convince other Member States to support these working papers as signatories.

On Friday, during the first committee session, delegates continued deliberations on committee topic I. Before the resumption of the second committee session, the Upper Secretariat approved all working papers as draft resolutions. In the second committee session, delegates went into formal voting procedure and all draft resolutions passed as resolutions. The resolution on technology aimed at highlighting practical ways that information on one hand and mitigatory and adaptive technology on the other can be used in addressing the negative impacts of climate change on food security in Member States. The Member State representatives encouraged fellow Member States to make efforts towards using adaptive technological measures by providing subsidy programs for climate-resilient technology, investing in local innovations and promoting synergy between policymakers, researchers and communities to ensure the development of technologies in line with national planning processes and producers’ needs.

The second resolution on gender equality aimed to identify ways in which gender inclusivity can foster higher agricultural yield as a means of combatting food insecurity occasioned by climate change. Member States are enjoined to include women in decision-making roles within

agricultural and climate change-focused ministries, in full consideration of the disparity in the impact of climate on both genders, their different contributions to climate change and their varying perceptions on adaptation and mitigation strategies as responses to climate change.

The third resolution on empowering low-income food-deficit countries sought to build the resilience of these countries, as regards the negative impact of climate change on food security through human capacity and infrastructural development as well as partnerships while also taking account of the peculiarities of these countries. It was proposed that education and knowledge transfer be prioritized as a means of addressing the impacts of climate change on food security in developing countries by providing sponsored training and internship schemes for experts in that field to improve their skill set in the agricultural research institutes of developed countries.

Code: FAO 1/1

Committee: The Food and Agriculture Organization

Topic: Food Security and Climate Change

The Food and Agriculture Organization,

Guided by the tenets of Goal 5 of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on Gender Equality and the empowerment of women, with specific reference to Target 5.a, which aims at undertaking reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, because these factors affect their ability to engage in agriculture,

Acknowledging the Gender Action Plan of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2014) adopted under the Lima work programme on gender equality that seeks to promote gender-responsive climate policies, mainstream gender perspectives in the implementation of the convention while noting that the vulnerability of the population to the effects of climate change depend majorly on socioeconomic factors like class, gender, and political status,

Reaffirming Target 2.3 of Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which aims to double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment, by 2030,

Cognizant of Targets 2.1 and 2.2 of Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which include infants and children in the fight to end hunger and ensure access to food

Reaffirming Target 10.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals on ensuring equal opportunity and reducing inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard,

Deeply Concerned that women play a major role in agriculture, making up to 60% of the workforce, but generally earn lower wages and do not receive the same access to productive resources as men, especially in the face of climate change effects on agricultural production,

1. *Accepts that amidst the harrowing effects of climate change on food security, Member States should ensure the equal provision of agricultural resources to women which would improve participation, build climate resilience in communities and effect more effective climate solutions before the year 2025 by;*
 - a. *reviewing restrictive land ownership laws, especially in developing countries where women are not allowed to own as much land as their male counterparts;*
 - b. *encouraging the creation of government-sponsored support groups for Women in Agriculture to share their challenges, farming knowledge, create credit-based collectives, in order to foster a sense of community and belonging;*
 - c. *partnering with private enterprises to provide credit access opportunities for women in agriculture, in return, the government can issue out fiscal incentives to them;*

- d. providing tailored training programmes for women in agriculture, in the light of climate change effects and the influx of new sustainable agricultural practices;
2. *Urges* Member States to include more women in decision making roles within Ministries that have Agriculture and Climate Change at the core of their mandate, in full consideration of the disparity in the impact of climate on both genders, their different contributions to climate change and their varying perceptions in adaptation and mitigation strategies as responses to climate change;
3. *Encourages* Member States to create an enabling environment for civil societies through its policies which would interface between government officials and community members on how women in agriculture can be assisted and gender equality, advanced;
4. *Encourages* Member States and International Organizations such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Committee on World Food Security, and the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), with a similar focus on agriculture to implement laws, programs and initiatives that would aid in the reduction of women's work burden by 20% in accordance with the Food and Agriculture Organization's Gender Equality Objectives through;
 - a. the review and eradication of laws that impede women's economic opportunities and ownership of land, provision of improved technologies;
 - b. improvement of their financial security by increasing their access to loans, credits and capitals;
5. *Urges* Member States to systemize gender-sensitive research programmes and share comparative data on the progress they have made on the empowerment of women in agriculture scheme through the Agricultural and Development Economics Division (ESA) of the Food and Agriculture Organization to keep track of international progress, sensitize themselves to new challenges and areas that need more development in order to tackle them effectively;
6. *Advises* Member States to set up gender-responsive budgeting systems for farmers which would include systematic and regular screenings of activities and plans, alongside gender impact assessments;
7. *Enlists* Member States to prioritize the provision of food security for children by;
 - a. partnering with organizations such as the Scaling Up Nutrition Initiative powered by the UNESCO, Oxfam, CARE and Action Against Hunger in addressing food security as it relates to children;
 - b. teaching food and nutrition-based courses in primary schools, in accordance with the FAO's Legal Guide on School Food and Nutrition,
8. *Calls upon* Member States who can provide training programmes on sustainable technology for farmers in developing countries to do so by;
 - a. deploying agricultural experts from developed countries to train smallholder farmers in developing countries;

- b. funding exchange programmes for farmers in developing countries in which they would go, learn, and return to implement what they have learned;
 - c. providing funding for the Food and Agriculture Organization to institute such programmes on their behalf;
9. *Calls upon* Member States to inculcate education on the importance of the role of women in agriculture within the society by;
- a. inviting international organizations and NGOs such as the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Agency for International Development and the Economic and Social Council of the African Union (AU) who are knowledgeable in the field to educate the society and other stakeholders on the gender-sensitive impacts on climate change so as to strengthen evidence of the same and understanding of these impacts, through media outreaches and conferences;
 - b. revamping educational structures to reflect this importance;
 - a. creating exchange programs between developed and developing nations, favouring female students who wish to study agriculture-related courses, provided that they return to their countries upon the completion of their education.

Code: FAO 1/2

Committee: The Food and Agriculture Organization

Topic: Climate Change and Food Security

The Food and Agriculture Organization,

Affirming the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (1992), Articles 2 and 10 of the Kyoto Protocol (1997) as well as the preamble of the Paris Agreement (2015) which identified greenhouse gas emissions as the primary driver of climate change and called for its reduction while placing emphasis on the importance of mitigatory and adaptive technology in developing novel mechanisms to tackle this issue with regards to food security,

Recognizing the need to actively merge technology with agriculture as supported by the Food and Agricultural Organization's "E-Agriculture Strategy Guide",

Reaffirming Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 which aims to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns to curb global food wastage, considering that food wastage has been estimated to be equivalent to 1.3 billion tons worth of food valued at \$1 trillion yearly, caused majorly by spoilage facilitated by poor storage, transportation and harvesting practices,

Alarmed that climate change threatens to reverse the progress made towards attaining zero global hunger due to its tendency to increase the vulnerability of livestock to diseases and decrease crop productivity,

Concerned by the prevalent lack of awareness of citizens in contributing to the increasing rates of greenhouse gas emissions while taking into cognizance the approaching deadline of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development with specific reference to Goals 2 and 13 which focus on achieving food security and promoting sustainable agricultural practices as a means of combating climate change respectively,

Appreciating the recommendation of the 48th session of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) encouraging national statistical offices to be actively involved in the preparation and submission of data on climate change to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (1992),

1. *Urges Member States to work towards cutting down the emission of greenhouse gases through,*
 - a. *the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices such as;*
 - i. *the gradual substitution of chemical fertilizers with organic manure;*
 - ii. *the use of traditional agricultural methods such as crop rotation with legumes and mixed cropping;*
 - iii. *the substitution of pesticides with the biological and mechanical methods of controlling pests such as introducing natural predators of pests to farms and using pest vacuums;*
 - b. *strengthening existing national laws on climate change by;*

- i. including mitigation policies, such as carbon emission cuts, the use of renewable energy like biomass, hydro and geothermal power, and energy efficiency targets;
 - ii. putting into place measures to ensure compliance with existing laws on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions such as the imposition of fines and sanctions on both natural and legal entities who contravenes the said laws in Member States which have not already done this;
 - iii. including climate change considerations in all aspects of development and national planning;
 - iv. enacting policies that touch on the proper management of natural resources such as regulatory laws and laws that guarantee accountability and transparency in the use of the said resources;
 - c. gradually replacing climate-hazardous fossil resources with renewable forms of energy such as wind and solar energy;
 - d. working with the Clean Technology Fund of the Climate Investment Funds Framework to provide funding for development of renewable energy technologies to reduce carbon intensity, and promote energy efficiency in industries and agriculture;
2. *Encourages* Member States to make efforts towards using adaptive technological measures such as improved irrigation systems or drought-resistant seeds and insurance schemes or crop rotation patterns in an anticipatory manner and not just a reactive manner by:
 - a. providing small-holder farmers with subsidy programs for climate-resilient technology;
 - b. investing in local innovations and technology that are climate change friendly such as wind turbines, bioreactors and photovoltaics;
 - c. promoting synergy between policymakers, researchers and communities to ensure the development of technologies in line with national planning processes and producers' needs;
 - d. creating action plans centred on afforestation policies to restore forests, protect existing plant and animal habitats, putting sanctions in place for hunting endangered animal species and taking steps towards discouraging harmful agricultural practices;
 - e. employing citizens through appropriate bodies instituted by Member States to implement the above subclause, especially with relation to agroforestry restoration and the protection of endangered animal and plant species;
 - f. funding and creating more irrigation systems especially in developing countries like the FAO irrigation project in Syria;
3. *Calls upon* Member States to address the need for sustainable consumption of food by;

- a. investing in organic composting machines and other related machinery which can be used in recycling food waste and making such available to smallholder farmers at a subsidized rate;
 - b. creating household-centred sensitization programs on the impact of food waste on climate change and food security and how this can be prevented;
 - c. incorporating the sustainable agriculture discourse into national educational frameworks at all levels;
4. *Further urges* Member States to embark on mitigatory and adaptive measures as regards the impact of climate change on animal husbandry such as;
 - a. organizing conferences aimed at improving breeding strategies employed by farmers in order to produce more resilient animals;
 - b. encouraging reforestation through deliberate policymaking and awareness campaigns;
 - c. establishing more animal gene banks and agricultural research institutes particularly focused on animal production;
5. *Recommends* that Member States work towards curbing food wastage in a bid to guarantee food security as well as ensuring proper management of waste;
 - a. creating awareness programs specifically targeted at farmers on the need to balance the amount of food produced with the available storage facilities or providing more storage facilities;
 - b. engaging in public-private partnerships with organizations that deal with waste management to ensure the proper disposal of waste;
6. *Further recommends* integration of technology into agriculture in Member States by;
 - a. training and empowering smallholder farmers with financial support on how to use of agricultural software applications to manage farms and monitor weather conditions;
 - b. gradually adopting various techniques of vertical farming in developed countries such as hydroponics, aquaponics and aeroponics;
 - c. encouraging the establishment of greenhouses through;
 - i. awareness campaigns in local communities and on social media;
 - ii. subsidizing materials needed in the establishment of these greenhouses;
7. *Proposes* the strengthening of information and statistical systems in order to investigate potential changes in economic and social systems under different climate scenarios, which will aid in the formation of suitable adaptation strategies by;

- a. incentivizing academia and research institutions in partnership with the Food and Agricultural Organization to research on invasive species in agricultural ecosystems, and how they could be controlled;
- b. encouraging Member States to establish well equipped agricultural research centres and employ experts who would aid in the collating data regarding climate change effects;
- c. creating awareness on research findings on climate change and making them available within Member States by;
 - i. having national holidays dedicated to raising awareness on these research findings and the need for sustainable living. This could be done in local communities and on social media;
 - ii. organizing campaigns targeted at sensitizing citizens on the impacts of climate change on agriculture and vice versa with special attention on rural areas and small-scale farmers.

Code: FAO 1/3

Committee: The Food and Agriculture Organization

Topic: Climate Change and Food Security

The Food and Agriculture Organization,

Mindful of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Report (2007) which stated that the impacts of Climate Change on food security have a more gruesome effect on developing countries,

Cognizant of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Report (2016) which stated that small-holder farmers play a vital role in food production especially in Low Income Food Deficit countries, with 500 million small-holder farmers supporting over 2 billion people in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia,

Deeply concerned by the prevalent inaccessibility to information, funds and technology in addressing the negative impacts of Climate Change on the agricultural sectors in developing countries,

Taking into consideration Target 17.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals on Global Partnerships which seeks to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed

Aware of the importance of agriculture in addressing hunger especially as it concerns developing countries,

Noting with approval the Food and Agriculture Organization's Special Programme for Food Security which aims at supporting low-income food-deficit countries (LIFDCs) in their efforts to improve access to food,

Acknowledging the need for regional structures which assess threats of climate change common to Member States within the same region,

Guided by Sustainable Development Goal (SGDs) Target 12.3 which aims at halving global food wastage from the point of production to actual consumption of food,

1. *Urges* Member States to prioritize education and knowledge transfer as a means of addressing the impacts of climate change on food security in developing countries by;
 - a. providing training and internship schemes sponsored by international organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in agricultural research institutes of developed countries for experts in developing countries;
 - b. low-income food deficit (LIFD) countries employing the expertise of policy formulation specialists to help in drafting well-informed domestic action plans and policies in response to the impact of climate change on agriculture;
 - c. organizing media outreaches in Low Income Food Deficit countries sponsored by international organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO),

the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and other organizations whose mandates centre on addressing the impact of climate change and Non-Governmental Organizations, reaching the people through television advertisements, radio talk shows, social media events and billboard placements;

- d. incorporating the use of sustainable agricultural practices such as crop rotation and integrated pest management (IPM) into educational curriculums at all levels of education;
 - e. encouraging locally produced climate change resilience mechanisms by providing funding for production through credit schemes and soft loans;
 - f. appointing celebrated citizens of different Member States (actors, models, influencers) as ambassadors who would use their influence to address this issue;
 - g. organizing annual conferences and idea fairs in developing countries to discuss modern technologies and innovations currently used to tackle this issue in various parts of the world and also propose ways that it can be incorporated in these countries;
2. *Recommends* that developing countries leverage the objectives of the Green Climate Fund to achieve food security by;
 - a. increasing the percentage of funds directed towards climate change adaptation in an anticipatory manner through business processes;
 - b. delegating authority from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board to its secretariat;
 - c. ensuring transparency and predictability in executing its functions;
 3. *Calls upon* developed countries, and related international organizations like the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) to increase their efficiency in response to calls for food aid from developing countries in times of food insecurity occasioned by climate change through the establishment of more decentralized offices in order to reduce red-tapism;
 4. *Encourages* Low-Income Food Deficit Countries to enact laws and policies that would enable small-holder farmers have access to sustainable agricultural technologies which mitigate the impact of climate change on food security by;
 - a. reducing tariffs on farming equipment and organic fertilizers for a period not exceeding five years;
 - b. increasing tariffs on chemical fertilizers and pesticides, which are harmful to the environment;
 5. *Also urges* developing countries to enact fiscal policies which would attract the investments of the private sector in Agriculture by;
 - a. granting fiscal incentives like tax reductions and holidays;

- b. encouraging financial institutions to issue out loans to aid smallholder farmers in accessing climate change adaptive tools;
- 6. *Draws the attention* of Low-Income Food Deficit countries to need to reduce the amount of food wasted within their territories by;
 - a. providing the agricultural infrastructure needed to bridge the gap between the demand for food and supply of food and such as;
 - i. construction and repair of road networks;
 - ii. provision of transport systems designed specifically for the delivery of agricultural produce from farm to markets;
 - iii. investment in agricultural storage facilities such as silos, maize crib amongst others and making these easily accessible to small-holder farmers.
 - b. increasing awareness of the public on food wastage by;
 - i. initiating local campaigns on the amount of food being wasted and the need to cut down food wastage;
 - ii. sensitization through social media, television and radio advertisement on traditional and affordable ways of preserving food such as drying, smoking, salting, pickling, fermenting, dehydrating;
- 7. *Emphasizes* the need for the prioritization of climate change considerations in already existing regional bodies such as the Economic Community of Central African States and the strengthening of regional climate change initiatives by developing countries within the same region such as the Permanent Interstate Committee for drought Control in the Sahel, in order to jointly develop a regional action plan to tackle all aspects of climate change in relation to food security.