



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
4 November 2013

Original: English

Sixty-eighth session

Second Committee

Agenda item 25

Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

Fiji:* draft resolution

Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [65/178](#) of 20 December 2010, [66/220](#) of 22 December 2011 and [67/228](#) of 21 December 2012,

Recalling also the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,¹ particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security,

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,² Agenda 21,³ the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,⁴ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁵ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),⁶ the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁷ the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁸ the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

² *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

³ *Ibid.*, annex II.

⁴ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁵ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁶ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁷ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁸ Resolution 60/1.



Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,⁹ the outcome document of the 2010 high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,¹⁰ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020¹¹ and the outcome document of the special event organized by the President of the General Assembly on 25 September 2013 to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,¹²

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,¹³

Acknowledging with appreciation the processes mandated at the Conference on Sustainable Development, which are now under way, in particular the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, as well as the process to develop a technology facilitation mechanism and its related works with regard to agriculture development, food security and nutrition,

Recalling its resolutions [66/221](#) of 22 December 2011 on the International Year of Quinoa, 2013, and [66/222](#) of 22 December 2011 on the International Year of Family Farming, 2014,

Expressing concern that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity are poverty and inequity, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and nutrition and to achieve the objective of reducing by half the proportion of undernourished people no later than 2015, as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,¹⁴ including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by half the proportion of undernourished people no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving the goals set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹⁵

Noting with appreciation the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food

⁹ Resolution 63/239, annex.

¹⁰ Resolution 65/1.

¹¹ *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7)*, chap. II.

¹² A/68/L.4.

¹³ Resolution 66/288, annex.

¹⁴ A/57/499, annex.

¹⁵ Resolution 55/2.

Programme, on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and nutrition,

Welcoming national, regional and international initiatives and commitments aimed at improving agriculture development, food security and nutrition,

Recalling the commitments made to achieve global food security and to provide adequate and predictable resources through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the financial and policy commitments set out in the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative, and further acknowledging the progress of implementation of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in support of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

Recalling also the adoption on 10 March 2010 of the Abuja Declaration on Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa by the High-level Conference on the Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa, endorsed by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighteenth ordinary session, in which a call was made for, inter alia, renewed commitment to increasing allocations in national budgets to the agricultural sector and for the adoption of programmes to accelerate the development of value chains for strategic food commodities, build competitive food supply systems and reduce reliance on food imports,

Stressing the importance of increasing sustained financing and targeted investment in the agriculture sector of developing countries, taking into account specific conditions, development needs and priorities of developing countries, to create a more level playing field in agricultural trade through substantial improvement in market access, substantial reduction in trade-distorting national support and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect as provided in the mandate from the Doha Work Programme of the World Trade Organization,¹⁶ the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration,

Reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet the nutritional needs, especially, of women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as those living in vulnerable situations,

Stressing the importance of the preservation of the natural resource base for food security,

Deeply concerned that, according to the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2013*, the number of people that are unable to meet their dietary energy requirements in the world remains unacceptably high and 98 per cent of the undernourished people in the world live in developing countries,

¹⁶ See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

Remaining deeply concerned about the continuing food insecurity being faced by millions of people in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel,

Reiterating the urgent need for action to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, as well as the root causes of food insecurity, in a manner consistent with the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security,

Acknowledging that food losses and waste, estimated at 1.3 billion tons annually, occur in both low- and high-income countries at all stages of the food supply chain, as well as the consumption stage, and recognizing the need to take urgent measures to reduce pre- and post-harvest losses and waste of food,

Reiterating the importance of empowering rural women as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and nutrition,

Recognizing that farmers, including small-scale farmers and fisherfolk, pastoralists and foresters, can make important contributions to sustainable development through production activities that are environmentally sound, enhance food security and the livelihood of the poor and invigorate production and sustained economic growth,

Recognizing also the importance and the positive role of smallholder farmers, including women, cooperatives and indigenous and local communities in developing countries, and their knowledge and practices, in the conservation and sustainable use of traditional crops and biodiversity, as well as livestock management, for present and future generations as an important contribution to the achievement of food security, as well as in the implementation of development goals in such fields as employment policy, social integration, regional and rural development, agriculture and environmental protection,

Welcoming the outcome of the thirty-eighth session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held in Rome from 15 to 22 June 2013, in particular the decision to modify the Organization's first global goal from reducing to eliminating hunger,

Highlighting the importance of the five strategic objectives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Welcoming the outcome of the fortieth session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 7 to 11 October 2013,

Recognizing the invitation to implement the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012,¹⁷ which are an important tool in the pursuit of the objectives of rural development, responsible investment in agriculture and the fight against hunger and poverty,

Recognizing also the ongoing open-ended consultative process within the Committee on World Food Security to develop voluntary and non-binding principles for responsible investments in agriculture for the Governments and related multi-

¹⁷ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

stakeholders, including private and public investors, intergovernmental and regional organizations and civil society organizations, and further reiterates the importance of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security,

Recognizing further the progress made in the two-year intergovernmental consultative process, based on a twin-track approach, at the Committee on World Food Security to develop a programme of action for addressing food insecurity in protracted crises at the global, regional and national levels and for advancing greater understanding of the multidimensional causes of protracted crises through sharing effective analytical tools to identify the root causes of food insecurity in such crises,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁸
2. *Reiterates* the need to adequately and urgently address agriculture development, food security and nutrition in the context of national, regional and international development policies, taking into account the importance of enhancing synergies between sustainable agriculture practices, biodiversity, food security, nutrition and development policies;
3. *Also reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing food security challenges and the eradication of poverty in relation to food security must be nationally articulated, designed, owned and led and built in consultation with all key stakeholders at the national level, as appropriate, and urges Member States, especially those that suffer from food insecurity, to make food security and nutrition a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;
4. *Calls upon* the international community to support Africa in the implementation of the various programmes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development, especially the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;
5. *Welcomes* the progress of the Zero Hunger Challenge launched by the Secretary-General at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012 to advance the collective efforts and cooperation to eliminate hunger and malnutrition;
6. *Also welcomes* the progress in the implementation of the "Scaling Up Nutrition" movement, which encourages increased political commitment and programmatic alignment to reduce global hunger and undernutrition, with emphasis on tackling undernutrition in women, especially pregnant and lactating women, and children under two years of age;
7. *Further welcomes* the global launch of the International Year of Quinoa, 2013 and the high-level panel discussion on food security and nutrition, held on 20 February 2013, during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, which constituted the first step in an ongoing process to focus world attention on the important role of quinoa, the biodiversity and nutritional value of which make it central to the provision of food security and nutrition, and to poverty eradication efforts, to the promotion of the traditional knowledge of the Andean indigenous

¹⁸ A/68/311.

peoples and raising awareness of their contribution to social, economic and environmental development and to the sharing of good practices in the implementation of the activities for the Year, as indicated in the master plan of activities, entitled “A future sown thousands of years ago”,¹⁹ in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

8. *Stresses* the need to address the root causes of excessive food price volatility, including its structural causes, at all levels, and the need to manage the risks linked to excessively volatile prices in agriculture commodities and their consequences for global food security and nutrition, as well as for smallholder farmers and poor urban dwellers;

9. *Also stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including through improving the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing public and private investment in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development;

10. *Encourages* all stakeholders to take part in the inclusive consultation and negotiation processes within the Committee on World Food Security for the development and broader ownership of principles for responsible agricultural investment that enhances food security and nutrition, which are to be submitted for endorsement by the Committee on World Food Security at its forty-first session in October 2014, taking into account existing frameworks, such as the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Bank;

11. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience of food and agricultural production to climate change, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought- and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, including the resilience of vulnerable groups and food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation and mitigation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

12. *Reaffirms* the necessity of promoting, enhancing and supporting more sustainable agriculture, including crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger and is economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and further recognizes the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support food production systems;

13. *Stresses* the need to enhance sustainable livestock production systems, including through improving pasture land and irrigation schemes in line with national policies, legislation, rules and regulations, enhanced sustainable water

¹⁹ A/67/553, appendix.

management systems and efforts to eradicate and prevent the spread of animal diseases, recognizing that the livelihoods of farmers, including pastoralists, and the health of livestock are intertwined;

14. *Also stresses* the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for food security and nutrition, and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people;

15. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition, and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food;

16. *Encourages* efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, taking into account the specific conditions, development needs and priorities of developing countries, capacity-building and systems development;

17. *Reaffirms* the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and of their funding, from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector to promote development and to build up resilience to ensure better recovery from crisis and shock, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research so as to enhance its development impact, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions and promoting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices and research to adapt to and mitigate climate change and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, while giving due consideration to the preservation of genetic resources;

18. *Acknowledges* the important role of technology facilitation, development, transfer and dissemination in narrowing and closing the technological gap between developed and developing countries and in improving food and agriculture production, and calls in this regard for the establishment of a technology facilitation mechanism for the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies that empower farmers, fisherfolk and foresters in order to achieve sustainable agricultural production;

19. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists for many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to empower rural women, including access to food and nutritional security for themselves and their families, and to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent conditions for work, and access to local, regional and global markets;

20. *Invites* Governments and international organizations, in collaboration with cooperatives and cooperative organizations, to promote, as appropriate, the

growth of agricultural cooperatives through easy access to affordable finance, the adoption of sustainable production techniques, investment in rural infrastructure and irrigation, strengthened marketing mechanisms and support for the participation of women in economic activities;

21. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity in different regions of the world and its ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

22. *Welcomes* the launching of the regional road map of the Global Alliance for Resilience Initiative, Sahel, in June 2013, which provides a regional guidance framework setting forth the overall objectives of the Alliance and which serves as the basis for formulating national resilience priorities, operational frameworks for funding, implementation, monitoring and assessment for building greater resilience among vulnerable populations in the Sahel by creating greater synergy between emergency actions and long-term strategies aimed at addressing the root causes of food crises;

23. *Recognizes* the important contribution of indigenous peoples and their traditional sustainable agricultural practices, including their traditional seed supply systems, notes the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the context of food security, and in this regard calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples;

24. *Also recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of systems should be strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

25. *Further recognizes* the importance of timely, accurate and transparent information in helping to address excessive food price volatility, notes global and regional initiatives, including the Agricultural Market Information System and its Rapid Response Forum, hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Food Security Information System of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Asia-Pacific Information Platform on Food Security, and urges international organizations, private sector actors and Governments to participate and ensure the public dissemination of timely and quality food market information products;

26. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture and rural development sectors, notably in developing countries, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to better address the needs of rural communities through, inter alia, enhancing access by agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, indigenous peoples and people living in vulnerable situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

27. *Urges* Member States and international organizations to pursue policies and strategies that improve the functioning of national, regional and international markets and ensure equitable access for all to those markets, especially smallholder and women farmers in developing countries, notes the importance of non-trade-distorting special measures that are consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization aimed at creating incentives for smallholder farmers in developing countries to enable them to increase their productivity and to compete on a more equal footing in world food markets, and urges Member States to refrain from taking measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization and that have adverse impacts on global, regional and national food security;

28. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the participation of farmers, especially smallholder farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets;

29. *Welcomes* the convening of the Ninth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, to be held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 6 December 2013, and further urges Member States to work for the successful conclusion of the Doha Development Round of trade negotiations, including a development-oriented outcome that ensures substantial improvement in market access, substantial reduction in trade-distorting national support and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures, with equivalent effect, as provided in the mandate from the Doha Work Programme, the framework adopted by the General Council of the World Trade Organization on 1 August 2004 and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration adopted by the World Trade Organization in 2005, so as to ensure fair and equitable growth in global trade and create new market access opportunities for developing countries;

30. *Stresses* the need to remove food export restrictions or extraordinary taxes on food purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes by the World Food Programme, and not to impose them in the future;

31. *Also stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards agriculture development, food security and nutrition;

32. *Further stresses* the need to significantly reduce post-harvest and other food losses and waste throughout the food supply chain through, inter alia, increased promotion of appropriate harvesting practices, agro-food processing, appropriate facilities for the storage, packaging of food and sustainable consumption patterns;

33. *Recognizes* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a key organ in addressing the issue of global food security,

including in the context of the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition;

34. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the productive capacity of developing countries, in particular their small-scale producers, by, inter alia, improving the proper functioning of markets, storage, rural infrastructure, research and pre-harvest and post-harvest practices, in order to enhance the production, productivity and nutritional quality of food crops and promote sustainable practices in agricultural activities;

35. *Also encourages* further dissemination and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, as endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security on 11 May 2012;

36. *Looks forward* to the implementation of the International Year of Family Farming in 2014, recognizes the important contribution that family farming and smallholder farming can play in providing food security and eradicating poverty in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and invites Member States, United Nations agencies, farmer's organizations and other partners to join efforts to successfully observe the International Year;

37. *Reaffirms* the commitments to making every effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 in support of developing countries, in particular those countries that are lagging most behind and those Goals that are most off track, thus improving the lives of the poorest people;

38. *Invites* Member States and other stakeholders to increase efforts at the national, regional and international levels to address the issue of agriculture development, food security and nutrition as an integral part of the international development agenda, including in the ongoing intergovernmental processes on the post-2015 development agenda;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on developments related to issues highlighted in the present resolution;

40. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session an item entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition".