*American Model United Nations*

**General Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization**

FAO/I/7

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture

SUBMITTED TO: The General Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization

*The General Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization,*

*Alarmed by* the effects of climate change, which has left many plants growing in places which can no longer sustain them,

*Recognizing* the effects of climate change on the Member States and the diverse methods of farming they employ,

*Introducing* the importance of alternative farming practices to promote biodiversity,

*Hopeful* about the possibility of technology being utilized to improve the lives of millions,

1. *Urges* the creation of a revolutionary new initiative, Future for Agricultural Diversity (FAD), to help decrease dependence on monoculture farming and increase plant genetic diversity to the following specifications;

2. *Calls for the* expansion of aquaculture and aquatic farming, especially with regards to high-demand crops such as seaweed, duckweed, and algae, to the following specifications:

(a) *Urges* the establishment of a scalable prototype of aquaculture models, using existing resource-light techniques currently used by traditional farmers in certain regions, such as floating wood planks on which algae can grow;

(b) *Encourages* working with cooperating non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in infrastructure building and aid work, as well as with local and regional governments in Member States, in order to;

(i) Make farmers aware of the aquaculture opportunities available to them;

(ii) Connect farmers with local or diverse regional markets available to purchase basic supplies such as duckwheat seeds or algae, or basic floating wooden rigs;

(iii) Deplores the use of excessive chemicals with regards to hydroponics in order to protect plant security;

(iv) Discourages overly concentrated and high volumes of aquaculture in order to prevent land degredation;

(v) Educate farmers on the basic techniques and timing involved in harvesting aquatic crops;

(vi) Connect farmers with markets to sell their aquatic crops, of which the livestock feed market is in particularly high demand;

(c) *Promotes* awareness of aquaculture as a farming technique and stimulates demand among non-industrial consumers for increased aquatic products, including delicious varieties of seaweed and the wide variety of culinary cuisines into which it can be incorporated;

3. *Encourages* the expansion of hydroponic initiatives to allow for greater urban farming as well as to supplement traditional agriculture and encourage greater crop diversity, to the following specifications:

(a) *Calls on* Member States to meet with regional partners and NGOs in order to determine crop deficiences and local demands for each region;

(b) *Urges* Member States to develop a scalable prototype of self-contained hydroponic models, to the following possible specifications;

(i) Models for hydroponics using natural terrain features and naturally occuring aquatic species, including local ponds, streams, lakes and coasts;

(ii) Models for hydroponics for urban environments, which are to be artificial containers of durable material to contain water, some limited aquatic species and plants;

(c) *Calls for* collaboration with local governments of Member States and NGOs to educate farmers about the possibility of using hydroponics to supplement their income or generate new crops, to educate farmers about hydroponics techniques, to inform markets about hydroponics crops and to generate excitement for accesible technologies in agriculture;

4. *Recommends* an FAO initiative to help farmers optimize their crop production patterns and varieties for their localized climates:

(a) *Empowers* cooperating scientists to investigate existing climate data and existing crop data to come to consensus about optimal crops for each environment;

(b) *Urges* cooperation between Member States, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, international aid programs and existing microfinance agencies to provide loans or subsidies for farmers to switch from non-optimal crops for their local environment to more ideal crops, such that;

(c) Loans and transition funds will be intended for small farmers and stakeholders;

(d) Loans and transition funds will be prioritizd for developing Member States and Member States with rapidly changing climates.

Passed, Yes: 25 / No: 1 / Abstain: 1