SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Assistance in mine action

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Fourth Committee

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

Being guided by the goals set by the Ottawa Convention and the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) to have a world free from the threat of mines,

Seeing that there are between ten and fifteen thousand casualties each year caused by the detonation of land mines,

Knowing that the majority of these casualties are civilians,

Recognizing the extensive and growing field of scent-based landmine detection,

Conscious of the human efforts of current demining operations on the international level,

Acknowledging the use of Canis Familiaris (dogs) as a viable option for the detection of explosives,

Emphasizing the need for immediate, efficient, cost-effective action to remove landmines and unexploded ordnance from high-risk civilian zones,

1. Highlights the importance of using Cricetomys gambianus (African Giant Rat) as the standard detection method of landmines;

2. Affirms the advantages of the use of African Giant Rat, such as:

(a) The African Giant Rat possesses an olfactory system with more genetic material than any other mammal species;

(b) They cost one-fifth of the price to train mine-detecting dogs;

(c) They possess ability to map specific smells, specifically, explosive vapors, and communicate them to trainers;

(d) Implementation will speed up the process of detecting the land mines; they detect mines within an area at a rate 192 times faster than manual metal detectors;

(e) High accuracy, as the rats do not enter the field until they have proven they can detect every landmine in a given training area with less than five percent of reports being false alarms;

(f) Are not physically capable of detonating landmines prematurely due to their light body mass;

(g) The African Giant Rat is a natural resource, thus is in accordance and works towards the Sustainable Development Goals, specifically:

(i) Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being;

(ii) Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy;

(iii) Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth;

(iv) Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure;

3. Recommends that portions of current funding towards the removal of landmines be reallocated towards using African Giant Rat;

(a) The usage of African Giant Rat is one of the most cost effective methods for removing landmines;

(b) By reallocating current funds towards this issue, it maximizes the success of removal as this method is one of the most effective;
(c) Reallocation of funds would go towards furthering research in this field, care for the rats, and establishing training centers;

4. *Reminds* the body that implementation of these training centers provides mine-affected communities the ability to begin rebuilding their communities:

(a) Establishing training centers provides a learning opportunity for all those involved about the dangers of landmines and the importance of removing them;

(b) Clarifying that establishing these training centers is a beneficial opportunity for local communities to capitalize on should they deem it beneficial.

Passed, Yes: 65 / No: 1 / Abstain: 1