



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Fourth Committee

GA Fourth/I/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Assistance in mine action

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Fourth Committee

The General Assembly Fourth Committee,

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

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

5 *Knowing* that the majority of these casualties are civilians,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 (ii) Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy;

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

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

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

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

33 (b) By reallocating current funds towards this issue, it maximizes the success of removal as this
34 method is one of the most effective;

35 (c) Reallocation of funds would go towards furthering research in this field, care for the rats, and
36 establishing training centers;

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

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

41 (b) Clarifying that establishing these training centers is a beneficial opportunity for local communi-
42 ties to capitalize on should they deem it beneficial.

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