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## American Model United Nations United Nations Environment Assembly

UNEA/I/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and pro-

duction

SUBMITTED TO: The United Nations Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the grave threat that climate change poses to agriculture, health, development and the longevity of the planet,

Guided by the belief that the United Nations must strive for equal distribution of environmental technology,

Taking note of past United Nations action on sustainable consumption and production, such as the Oslo Symposium, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, A/RES/66/288, UNEP/EA.4/Res.1, UNEP/EA.4/Res.10 and UNEP/EA.5/4,

Keeping in mind the General Assembly's past approval of life-cycle analysis and its benefits to effectively and accurately evaluate sustainability,

Acknowledging the establishment of the Technology Mechanism with the objective of accelerating and supporting the transfer and development of climate technology,

Taking note of the work and partnerships achieved through the United Nations Technology Bank,

Recognizing that developing Member States have less access to climate technologies necessary for innovation and more sustainable consumption and production, and that developed Member States can help provide assistance with climate technologies,

- 1. Reaffirms the definition of sustainable consumption and production as sustainability throughout the entire lifestyle of a product, from its production through its supply chain, and ending with the products fate in waste management, as defined in the Oslo Symposium of 1994;;
- 2. *Promotes* the wide scale adoption of life-cycle analysis as a method of determining the sustainability of a product or practice by international organizations and Member States as opposed to the current practice of only evaluating ingredients or materials:
  - (a) Life-cycle analysis applies to consumer goods, services and energy production;
- (b) Member States who wish to do so might consider a product label indicating it was sustainably produced, similar to the "organic" food label that some Member States have;
- 3. Draws the attention of the General Assembly on the existence of technology and knowledge that is environmentally effective, such as composting, bicycles, solar panels, wind turbines, food saving techniques, hydropower and others:
- 4. Expresses its hope that the committee can move away from the principle that economic development and environmental sustainability are mutually exclusive, for example:
- (a) Bicycles emit zero emissions and at the same time aid families that would otherwise walk by reducing their travel times by 300 percent thus allowing them to;
  - (i) Travel to their fields faster and therefore have more time to plant and harvest at once and therefore produce more products to sell;
  - (ii) Transport more of their goods to market and increase their income;
  - (iii) Access crucial education that can grow into future social mobility;

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(b) Solar panels and wind turbines are much more environmentally friendly than fossil fuel options 35 and have yet to be implemented in suitable environments; 36 (i) Planning and building these solutions provide jobs for nations; 37 (c) Wasting food is the same as wasting money; 38 (i) All the effort used to produce food through all levels including growing, harvesting, processing, 39 packaging, shipping and preparation can be wasted when food is wasted; 40 (ii) Food waste and waste in general requires landfill space, space that is not used for economically 41 42 productive activities; (iii) Excess food can be used for compost and donation; 43 5. Encourages Member States to contribute to measures that would distribute the already existing en-44 vironmentally sustainable technologies and potential new innovations throughout the world including the United 45 Nations Technology Bank, Technology Executive Committee, and Climate Technology Centre and Network: 46 (a) Suggests that the Technology Executive Committee, as a part of the Technology Mechanism 47 established in 2010, focus on working with developing countries to identify sustainable consumption and production 48 policy issues and provide recommendations to support climate technology efforts; 49 (b) Advises funding to and collaborations with the Climate Technology Centre and Network, with an 50 emphasis on funding from developed nations and collaborations involving developed-developing country partnerships, 51 for the purposes of; 52 (i) Providing technical assistance for developing countries; 53 (ii) Facilitating access to knowledge regarding climate technologies; 54 (iii) Enabling collaboration among stakeholders in climate technology; 55 (iv) Coordinating and facilitating research and technical training exchange between parties; 56 (c) Recommends that Member States, the private sector, and foundations contribute funds to the 57 United Nations Technology Bank in order to support programs and projects that build technological and innovative 58 capacities in developing countries; 59 (d) Further recommends the creation and reinforcement of partnerships established across sectors 60 through the United Nations Technology Bank for the purposes of; 61 (i) North-South and South-South research collaborations; 62 (ii) Helping developing countries identify and use technologies to improve and transform their 63 economies and the livelihoods of their citizens; 64

6. Invites the adaptation of the Green Climate Fund to promote greater efficiency in effecting comprehensive sustainable consumption and production (SCP) initiatives, with functions including:

(a) Coordinating public and private financing for SCP initiatives;

(b) Providing advice for, or review of, SCP initiatives from approved public and private applicants;

7. Recommends that the United Nations Environment Programme provide, when requested, technical assis-69 tance to Member States who wish to evaluate the sustainability of domestic policies or proposals. 70

Passed, Yes: 28 / No: 2 / Abstain: 0

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