

FORUM: General Assembly

QUESTION OF: Accelerating Efforts to Eradicate Food Shortage in Sri Lanka Due to COVID-19

MAIN-SUBMITTED BY: Ukraine

CO- SUBMITTED BY: Bangladesh, Mali, China, UAE, DPRK, Afghanistan, Albania

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Alarmed by the administration lowered the value of the rupees against the U.S. dollar, market food prices have soared and make difficult for citizens to buy essential foods,

Recalling the World Food Program (WFP) has been collaborating with Sri Lanka's government by assisting the government with technical and policy assistance,

Keeping in mind the distribution of many trans-national and commodity logistics cannot be transported as usual,

Noting further on January 27, 2020, the first confirmed case occurred in Sri Lanka,

Realizing Covid-19 affected Sri Lanka's economy in negative ways such as the pandemic damaging the economy,

Aware of the food shortages have killed more than 5 million people worldwide,

Further Aware of Sri Lanka has seen its food security and provision of sustainable food seriously deteriorate since COVID-19,

Having considered Sri Lanka's food shortages are prone to disease and social crises due to lack of immunity in addition to hunger as well as malnutrition,

1. Calls upon World Bank Support

- a. Ask the World Bank Group for help with the health, economy, and social effects of COVID-19 in the following ways:
 - i. request financial input to support personal protective equipment, agricultural equipment, and strengthen private services,
 - ii. short term food distribution is requested,
 - iii. ask for free distribution of food kits and provision of seeds and small farming equipment to poor and vulnerable small farmers,

- b. The Women's self-support organization requests support in accordance with the National Regular Life Hood Mission (NRLHM) jointly with the World Bank to solve the problem of lack of masks and disinfectants, and restore the supply of local kitchens and fresh food, and support vulnerable groups,
2. Reminds governments to organize programs that could mitigate the food insecurity issues by means such as but not limited to:
 - a. asking other governments to trade food for resources in Sri Lanka such as limestone and various types of precious gemstones,
 - b. make sustainable foods more widespread by supporting local businesses, which will help the inflation issue happening right now,
 - c. creating more jobs in ways such as but not limited to:
 - i. lowering the taxes to encourage more citizens to participate in the labor force
 - ii. building infrastructures that provide jobs such as factory workers, electricians, and workers for maintenance,
 - d. providing education for the younger generation so that they can find more jobs in the future,
3. Recommends Sri Lanka to ask for financial aid from places such as but not limited to:
 - a. global communities that are allies to Sri Lanka, such as Australia since during the peak of the pandemic, Australia has helped Sri Lanka with medical equipment and food,
 - b. non-governmental organizations such as Action Against Hunger,
 - c. contact the Supplemental Nutrition Association Program (SNAP), which is a non-profit that helps poverty people to get food the Women and Infant Children (WIC) program, which helps low-income families with pregnant mothers or infants under 5,
 - d. connecting with the International Fertilizer Development center (IFDC) to receive foods that are nutritionally appropriate and meet individual and collective consumer preferences,
4. Suggest More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs) to support on improving existing infrastructure programs in Sri Lanka to help the country escape from the cycle of debts and start restoring its economy such in ways but not limited to:
 - a. create markets for infrastructure projects and services,
 - b. enhance the attractiveness of infrastructure projects for private funding,
 - c. overhaul infrastructure for radical innovation and productivity growth by:
 - i. long-term strategic land acquisition based on prior identification of strategic land corridors in cities and regions,
 - ii. better information and analytics for infrastructure construction and operation and the use of big data for infrastructure service planning,

- d. asking MEDCs to send supporters to develop time-efficient infrastructure building skills,
5. Further recommends Sri Lanka to plant beneficial seeds such as:
 - a. saline- alkali tolerant rice, which is a type of rice that can grow in saline-alkali land or be planted with saltwater, and does not need chemical fertilizers,
 - i. could be traded with other countries that don't have these kinds of rice,
 - ii. since it can be planted with saltwater and doesn't need chemical fertilizer then it would be valuable to places that might not have fresh water,
 - b. tattooing Rice, which is a type of rice that can keep growing after an excellent harvest,
 6. Request Sri Lanka to make their food resources domestic, sustainable, and efficient in ways such as but not limited to:
 - a. carrying out vertical farming, which is the practice of growing crops in vertically stacked layers be used to maximize space and efficiency,
 - b. recycling waste:
 - i. using manure as a natural fertilizer,
 - ii. using crop waste to benefit local farms,
 - c. improving domestic to greatly improve Sri Lanka's economy in ways such as but not limited to:
 - i. supporting local businesses and farmers so that the money will eventually go back to the government,
 - ii. reduce the cost that the country spends on exports since farming foods domestically is much cheaper,
 - d. carrying out animal husbandry,
 - e. use lands that are not being used for infrastructure or humanitarian areas for farms and plantations,
 7. Recommend people to use online services to publicize and make more people aware of the problems facing Sri Lanka by the following methods, but not limited to:
 - a. use online methods for people who have internet connection with such things but not limited to:
 - i. YouTube,
 - ii. Twitter,
 - iii. Instagram,
 - iv. Facebook,
 - v. Online news websites,
 - b. offline methods for people who might not have internet connection since Sri Lanka is still heavily undeveloped:
 - i. Newspapers,

- ii. posters and billboards;
8. Calls upon Sri Lanka to strengthen their covid-19 protection guidelines such as but not limited to:
- a. encourage people to wear mask so the risk of Covid-19 will be smaller,
 - b. using different methods to reduce the times citizens need to go out:
 - i. implementing ways to buy food from citizen's home to lessen the risk of getting the virus,
 - ii. hosting events online for schools or companies,
 - c. practice social distancing when you are in public spaces to reduce the probability of catching covid-19 while also setting a good example for other people to do the same,
 - d. multiple nucleic acid tests without delay,
 - i. divide up regions for more efficient covid testing,
 - ii. specific schedules for the test such as monthly and daily,
 - e. regularly disinfect public areas.