

FORUM: General Assembly

QUESTION OF: Accelerating Efforts to Eradicate Food Shortage in Sri Lanka Due to COVID-19
MAIN-SUBMITTED BY: Saudi-Arabia

CO- SUBMITTED BY: Greece, Sri Lanka, Iceland, Egypt, Panama, Uruguay, Kazakhstan, Iraq, and Iceland

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

Deeply concerned that inflation in Sri Lanka hit a record of 11.1% in November 2021, and accordingly, the prices of essential foods are escalating,

Convinced that food shortage happens when high demand for groceries is combined with soaring freight costs,

Noting with deep concern that approximately 75% of Sri Lankans are dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods, but a majority of workers still work in agriculture and service with low incomes and poor job quality,

Affirming that a stable and enabling political, social and economic environment is the essential foundation that will enable states to give adequate priority to food security and poverty eradication,

Recalling the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), in which the fundamental right of every person to be free hunger is recognized, and that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Acknowledging that the emergence of COVID-19 has severely affected the food and nutrition security of Sri Lanka creating many socio-economic challenges, including the impact of a nutritional ‘triple burden’ of malnutrition, obesity, and vitamin and mineral deficiency,

Recognizing that the government has imposed severe import restrictions to address the problem of rupee depreciation and inflation, setting off a dangerous chain reaction in the process including an economic and food crisis intensified by the policy of banning chemical fertilizers, and that government denials of the existence of a food crisis have made the population restless,

Keeping in mind the UN food relief agency that cooperated with the Sri Lankan government to help with their food shortage issue, and the World Food Program (WFP) that has been working with Sri Lanka closely to find solutions for their food instabilities,

Alarmed that the current COVID-19 pandemic has caused a major disruption in all aspects including education, employment, food shortage, and travel around the globe, affecting the future generation of the world by slowing, making inconvenient, or altogether halting,

Expecting the United Nations’ further recognition and agrotechnological assistance for food shortages and insecurities in Sri Lanka, especially due to the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. Deplores the initiative of supporting organizations related and unrelated to the cause of supporting the agriculture of Sri Lanka to reduce the food shortage in such ways but not limited to:
 - a. asking the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to collaborate with the Sri Lankan Institution of Nanotechnology to improve agricultural methods by:
 - i. instructing and introducing the usage of reusable nano-technology such as nano pesticides and nano fertilizers,
 - ii. using organic technology like nano zeolites and hydrogels for a better soil quality which will also help farmers in long-term situations with agriculture and farming as they are reusable,
 - b. inviting food/nutrition-related organizations such as the World Food Programme to educate and support farmers and normal citizens about overcoming food shortages by teaching them:
 - i. what organic farming is and how to farm without unaffordable chemical fertilizers,
 - ii. how to maintain a healthy diet with the resources that are relatively abundant,
 - iii. providing Sri Lankan farmers with agriculture resources such as vegetation covers, various types of seeds used for vegetation, and soil washers or cleaners;
2. Calls health organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to aid Sri Lanka by arranging medical supplies and new Covid restrictions so that farmers can make production as effective as possible by preventing infection among farmers in ways such as but not limited to:
 - a. deploying necessary medical supplies:
 - i. masks (both reusable and disposal),
 - ii. vaccinations,
 - iii. ventilators,
 - b. reducing the number of farmers getting infected using precautionary measures:
 - i. encouraging social distancing with other farmers,
 - ii. reevaluating labor assignments that may require more people to be in close proximity to each other when working,
 - iii. disinfecting the farmers and work area before and after farm work;
3. Urges the government of Sri Lanka to increase the awareness among people and to construct laws regulating the amount of food being wasted in order to reduce the food shortage in such ways but not limited to:
 - a. enacting laws and policies to reduce food waste to save more food for people to consume:
 - i. prevent illegal food trading to ensure more food is provided and kept in Sri Lanka rather than other locations that have been traded illegally,

- ii. banning food hoarding to make sure that everyone gets a substantial amount of sustenance, rather than food being congested in one area,
 - b. subsidizing and creating programs with the intention of imparting more food to Sri Lanka:
 - i. support Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as the World Food Programme (WFP) to increase the help that they could provide to Sri Lanka by funding future works by monetarily subsidizing future aid projects and missions,
 - ii. create and improve infrastructural programs and projects in Sri Lanka to reduce the food shortage, such as the Country Programming Framework (CPF) and the project focusing on the rehabilitation of degraded agricultural lands in Kandy, Badulla and Nuwara Eliya Districts in the Central Highlands;
4. Suggests the government of Sri Lanka to inform and raise awareness on the serious current situation all around the world in such ways but not limited to:
- a. making social media accounts to spread awareness to people in different regions of the world through ways such as but not limited to:
 - i. using online platforms like Instagram and Facebook to share donation programs to provide financial assistance for citizens that need sustenance,
 - ii. using online advertisements to inform people in other nations about the food struggles in Sri Lanka to encourage individuals to assist,
 - b. utilizing all forms of media in ways such but not limited to:
 - i. broadcasting platforms that will announce the situation in Sri Lanka worldwide,
 - ii. publishing newspapers that show the current malnourished state of affairs in Sri Lanka,
 - iii. creating a website to let people from other nations learn and gather more information about Sri Lanka's food struggles, [SEP]
 - c. Encouraging schools to begin or create service projects to add the spread of awareness through possible ways such as:
 - i. Creating a fundraiser to help raise donation money to support an aid organization that assists Sri Lanka in their food struggles such as the World Food Program,
 - ii. Start campaigns to spread the information of the current situation in Sri Lanka through speeches and or events.
5. Encourages the government of Sri Lanka to reduce inflation to decrease prices of food to ensure that underprivileged citizens can also have access to nutriment in ways such as but not limited to:
- a. control wages to reduce inflation pressure:
 - i. raise wages of the government funded companies, in line with inflation,
 - ii. add some stipends that can be earned through work,

- b. applying the Contractionary Monetary Policy, in order to fight food shortage,
 - i. increase the interest rate in order to cut back both businessman and consumer from spending,
 - ii. sell government securities in order to affect the money supply and interest rates, such as treasury bills, capital bonds and state development bonds;

- 6. Notes that the global food supply chain has created several significant issues resulting in about a quarter of Sri Lanka's food production going uneaten, so must develop a system that is both beneficial, efficient, and stable in ways such as but not limited to:
 - a. strengthen the resilience of vulnerable rural communities in nations dependent on food supply chains to natural shocks and climate risks such as but not limited to:
 - i. improve access to climate forecasts and resources,
 - ii. prepare for recurring climate-induced shocks,
 - b. make time for the recovery of the food supply chain by:
 - i. removing import restrictions and banning fertilizer policies to alleviate food shortages,
 - ii. reducing too many intermediaries in the food supply chain to improve the efficiency of the food system,
 - c. prevent the rise of agricultural prices by:
 - i. shortening the high mileage of food to reduce costs and prevent further damage to products on the way,
 - ii. establishing field level warehousing and cold storage facilities to prevent the price rise of agricultural products caused by weather fluctuations,
 - iii. providing access to sufficient market information and supply and demand data, and giving farmers correct planting instructions;

- 7. Requests food, drinks, and other sustenance-related resources from More Economically Developed Countries (MEDC) and the Food and Agriculture Organization with a surplus number of the aforementioned supplies,
 - a. donating food to charity organizations and have missionaries and other charity organizations to go to Sri Lanka and feed the starving people in ways such as but not limit to:
 - i. have people of organizations such as UNICEF go on more aid trips and focus on donations relating to Sri Lanka food shortage,
 - ii. hold a petition for several countries by UNICEF to sign and agree for their government to take action to help the Sri Lankans,
 - b. sending human resources from the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and agronomy machines from other nations to Sri Lanka, which bring efficiency in gathering and growing produce by generating:
 - i. skilled workers who are educated in the studies of agriculture,
 - ii. professional food experts who will be able to divulge others with information and aid regarding cultivation,
 - iii. farming machines which will be able to harvest or produce food more efficiently;

8. Request all nations involved in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to cooperate with the UN Framework Convention on Food Management (UNFCFM) to produce viable solutions or technologies to alleviate the issues of food shortage in Sri Lanka such as but not limited to:

- a. initiating climate repair, which is mutating the ionosphere shooting high frequency waves to manipulate global climate,
- b. carbon capture to isolate CO₂ from the atmosphere by collecting, compressing, and transporting carbon dioxide from sources such as power plants generated at high concentrations injecting it into bedrock layers underground the ocean,
- c. reducing wasted energy by working with International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) through developing renewable energies such as:
 - i. solar energy,
 - ii. hydro energy,
 - iii. geothermal energy,
 - iv. tidal energy;

9. Encourages the expansion of import of Genetically Modified (GM) crops which increase the abundance of food, containable nourishments, and other beneficial attributes such as:

- a. encouraging farmers to use herbicides or pesticides to:
 - i. controlling the percentage of crops that die due to pesticides to under 15 percent,
 - ii. eradicating pests that harm the crops,
- b. improve quality of food allowing for easier transportation to remote areas which can be done in such ways but not limited to:
 - i. arranging a planting system that can be managed according to the characteristics of local land resources, climate and the environment,
 - ii. conducting general surveys and screenings of the variety and quality of agricultural products,
- c. producing agricultural results that yield in crops carrying strong attributes that allows crops to survive extreme environments and weather conditions.