

Commission: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Session: NATIONAL MUN - 2024

Sponsors: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Burundi, Czechia, Egypt,
Guyana, Haiti, Madagascar, Qatar, Portugal, Thailand

QUESTION OF: **PROMOTING POLICIES AND INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT
THE GROWTH AND INTEGRATION OF URBAN
AGRICULTURE INTO SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS**

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the steadfast commitment of FAO member states to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2(Zero Hunger),11(Sustainable Cities and Communities), and 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production),

Acknowledging the resounding efforts of the 2023 FAO Urban Agriculture Conference in Rome, which highlighted the imperative for global solidarity and innovation in urban agriculture practices,

Noting with approval that according to the United Nations, the total number of people living in cities is expected to grow from approximately 4.4 billion today to 6.7 billion in 2050, while 40% of global urban land remains fallow, representing a stark symbol of missed opportunities for enhancing food security and urban resilience,

Observing that dependence on rain-fed agriculture, poor water availability and inadequate infrastructure, exacerbated by poverty, have reduced resilience to natural hazards thus raising concerns over the effects of climate change,

Deeply disturbed that the environmental impacts of conventional agricultural practices, contribute to over 20% of global greenhouse gas, emissions and severe soil degradation, threatening the very foundation of our food systems,

1. Encourages Member States to grant subsidies to non-profit organizations in order to foster community farms thus abiding by Article 13 of the Food and Agriculture Organization;

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2. Endorses the implementation of educational awareness campaigns by the governments and NGOs in view of reaching and encouraging the general public to adopt sustainable food practices through the use of urban agriculture;
3. Recommends the incorporation of urban agricultural consideration into development policies, ensuring supportive zoning regulations and infrastructural investments;
4. Calls for significant investment in research and development focused on urban agricultural technologies and practices aiming to address urban-specific challenges and enhance food productivity and sustainability;
5. Welcomes the engagement of the private sector in urban agriculture known as commercial farms and that of NGOs concerning investment in green infrastructures and support for sustainable food supply chains;
6. Demands that Member States prioritize sustainable practices in urban agriculture such as organic farming methods, water efficient irrigation systems and integrated pest management to minimize environmental impacts;
7. Supports the promotion of equitable access to urban agricultural opportunities for marginalized communities through provision of training programs such as workshops to educate small farmers, capacity building program and technical assistance;
8. Considers the salient role of proper regulatory frameworks in city planning and development to achieve environmentally conscious food production in integrating urban agriculture, while maintaining socio-economic benefits;

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9. Notes that the 70% of global food waste could be reduced by implementing waste management systems that support urban agriculture by:
 - a) providing organic waste for composting and enrichment;
 - b) exploring waste-to-energy approaches;

10. Recommends the establishment of a dedicated task force within the FAO to focus on climate resilience and urban agriculture for countries vulnerable to natural disasters by:
 - a) developing early warning system for extreme weather events;
 - b) promoting climate-smart agriculture practices;
 - c) enhancing water management and irrigation systems;

11. Urges governments to establish resilient urban agriculture models tailored to local contexts, including rooftop gardens, vertical farming and aquaponics and shifting to green buildings to optimize urban land use and enhance food security;

12. Encourages the steadfast collaboration of international stakeholders and organizations, anticipating fruitful deliberations at the upcoming 2024 FAO Urban Agriculture Summit in Lisbon, aimed at fostering global cooperation and knowledge exchange.