

Commission : Environment
Session : Zonal MUN 2024
Sponsors : France, USA, Malta, Sierra Leone, Israel, Nigeria, Canada,
Australia, Venezuela, Syria, Malaysia, Pakistan, Madagascar,
Rwanda

QUESTION OF: DISCUSSING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE OVERUSE OF CHEMICAL FERTILISERS

The General Assembly,

Aware of the critical role of agriculture in the livelihoods of millions of people all around the world,

Bearing in mind the principles of the United Nations Charters, which emphasize the promotion of higher standards of living, economic and social progress for all people and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development particularly achieving zero Hunger promoting Responsible Consumption and Production, and taking appropriate Climate Action,

Deeply concerned that food shortage is caused by unsuitable contaminated soil which results in poor yield, compromised quality, thus becoming a threat to food security,

Keeping in mind that the United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP) stated that an overuse of chemical fertilisers causes eutrophication, preventing plants and aquatic animals from receiving sufficient amount of oxygen, bringing about their death and the remaining 65% of nitrogen degrades the quality of water in water-stressed areas,

Deeply disturbed that the manufacture of inorganic fertilizers through the Haber Process is the cause of 2% of worldwide fossil energy use, generating 420 million tonnes of CO2 annually,

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Alarmed by the detrimental effects like soil degradation caused by chemical fertilisers as they may disrupt the natural balance of soil microorganisms, reduce soil fertility and can increase soil acidity, leading to increased costs for farmers,

Grieved by the marine ecosystem which is the most affected biodiversity due to the fertiliser runoff and the use of chemical fertilizers which disrupt soil microbial communities and reduce soil biodiversity, impacting plant health, insect populations and overall ecosystem resilience,

Deploring the rising cases of human health issues caused by the ingestion of chemical fertilizers, which contain harmful synthetic chemicals, present in food and water that strongly affecting human beings,

1. Instructs stricter policies and regulations on the quantity and timing of fertiliser application to encourage farmers to reduce the use chemical fertilisers;

2. Urges the assessment of environmental impacts of chemical fertilisers overuse in collaboration with relevant UN bodies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), like the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), and local stakeholders, so that a national strategy can be brought up;

3. Recommends the implementation of educational programs, workshops and seminars so as to sensitize farmers and agricultural workers on the sustainable use of chemical fertilizers and the development of innovative solutions;

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4. Encourages the consideration of nitrogen fixing plants so that the harmful nitrogen gas in chemical fertilisers can be converted to ammonia for plants to use it to make protein, amino acids and DNA;

5. Invites the private sector including agricultural companies and fertilizer manufacturers to invest in and promote sustainable agricultural practices and products, situating their operations with sustainability goals;

6. Calls upon the use of nano fertilisers to elevate food production where nutrients are used by crops optimally which limits the excessive use of chemical fertilisers;

7. Further proclaims that integrated pest management is a pest control approach that uses a variety of methods to control pest, including non-chemical methods such as hand picking, trapping and biological control;

8. Further invites the international community to provide technical and financial support to countries for the development of eco-friendly agricultural practices.