

FORUM: FAO

QUESTION: Warding off the threat of waste for the sake of humankind: Reduce food waste

SUBMITTED BY: French delegation

Recalling the fundamental principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the commitment to promote social progress and higher standards of life.

Recognizing the need to address the complex and multifaceted challenge of global food waste, which not only undermines environmental sustainability but also threatens the achievement of food security and economic stability worldwide.

Acknowledging that the impact of food waste transcends borders and disproportionately affects vulnerable communities, exacerbating existing inequalities and hindering the realization of the right to food for all.

Reaffirming the role of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as the central commission for international cooperation in seeking sustainable and equitable solutions to global food challenges.

Promoting the collective responsibility of Member States, as well as public and private entities, as highlighted in various international instruments, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Highlighting the principles of shared responsibility, solidarity, and inclusiveness in the face of global challenges, and recognizing that tackling food waste requires a comprehensive and collaborative effort by all stakeholders.

Emphasizing the importance of collective efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 12.3, which aims to halve global per capita food waste by 2030.

1. *Urges* Member States to actively implement and support educational programs that not only raise awareness of the detrimental effects of food waste but also emphasize the crucial role that individuals and communities can play in minimizing it.
2. *Advocates* for the inclusion of comprehensive food waste reduction curricula in education at all levels to promote a proactive and informed approach to waste prevention from an early age. By linking food waste reduction with scientific principles, this initiative aims to empower students to become environmentally conscious individuals capable of addressing complex sustainability challenges through evidence-based research and innovation.
3. *Calls on* Member States to formulate and implement policies and strategies aimed at preventing food waste throughout the supply chain, from production to consumption.
4. *Promotes* global collaboration between governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, encouraging the sharing of best practices, technological advances, and innovative initiatives to collectively address and reduce food waste on a global scale.
5. *Facilitates* the forging of strategic partnerships to address the challenges of food waste, promoting the exchange of information, joint research projects, and the development of joint initiatives to increase the impact of efforts to combat food waste.
6. *Suggests* Member States actively promote and support sustainable agricultural practices, such as crop rotation, conservation tillage, cover cropping, agroforestry, integrated pest management

(IPM), water conservation techniques, and agroecology, that effectively reduce post-harvest losses and promote the efficient use of resources in food production.

7. *Establishes* a mechanism under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for continuous monitoring and reporting on Member States' progress towards achieving the specific targets outlined in SDG 12.3. This mechanism ensures accountability and transparency in the global effort to reduce food waste by coordinating data collection, reporting protocols, and collaboration with international organizations and national agencies.
8. *Facilitates* the exchange of data and information between Member States and relevant stakeholders to assess the effectiveness of implemented measures, identify areas for improvement, and facilitate a continuous learning process towards more effective food waste reduction strategies.
9. *Calls on* Member States to encourage food businesses to donate surplus edible food to charitable organizations, thereby tackling both food waste and food insecurity; suggests that Member States consider tax incentives or other favorable policies to encourage such donations.
10. *Urges* Member States to implement regulations promoting standardized date labeling on food products to reduce confusion and prevent unnecessary waste of food that is still safe to eat; recommends alignment with international standards to facilitate global trade.
11. *Advocates for* the introduction of financial incentives, such as reduced taxes or subsidies, to encourage the use of sustainable packaging materials and technologies that prolong the shelf-life of food products, thereby helping to reduce food waste.
12. *Calls for* the establishment of a global information-sharing platform, facilitated by FAO, where Member States can regularly share progress, challenges, and success stories related to their food waste reduction initiatives.
13. *Recommends* the development of a standardized global metric for measuring and reporting on food waste, which will allow for more accurate comparisons between countries and facilitate the identification of effective strategies.
14. *Urges* Member States to work with the private sector to create public-private partnerships aimed at investing in and implementing innovative technologies for smart packaging and storage to extend the shelf-life of perishable goods.
15. *Proposes* Member States to include food waste reduction targets in their national climate action plans, highlighting the significant contribution that reducing food waste makes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions; proposes to aim for a 20% reduction in emissions related to food waste by 2030, and *calls for* the inclusion of food waste reduction targets in international trade agreements. This encourages nations to consider the environmental and social impacts of food production and consumption in their trade relations, thus promoting sustainable practices on a global scale.
16. *Encourages* the establishment of a Global Food Waste Reduction Fund with the aim of mobilizing at least 0.5% of the annual global food production value to finance projects and initiatives aimed at reducing food waste worldwide. This fund shall prioritize projects that promote innovative technologies and practices for food waste reduction.
 - a) *Encourages* research and innovation by allocating resources from the Global Food Waste Reduction Fund to advance technologies and practices that minimize food waste at every stage of the supply chain.

- b) *Encourages* the development and promotion of cutting-edge technologies that enable food to be stored and distributed in a way that minimizes waste, emphasizing the need for sustainable and efficient food supply chains.
- c) *Supports* the establishment of dedicated research funds at national and international levels, with the aim of allocating at least 1% of agricultural research budgets to projects specifically aimed at developing innovative technologies to reduce food waste.

Urges FAO to establish a dedicated task force to provide technical assistance and guidance to Member States in implementing the measures outlined in this resolution.

Commits to convene regular international conferences to review progress, share best practices, and adjust strategies in the global effort to reduce food waste; Reaffirms the unwavering commitment of Member States to address the global challenge of food waste and build a more sustainable, resilient, and equitable food system.

Calls for continued cooperation and commitment from all stakeholders to collectively achieve the goals set out in this resolution for the benefit of humanity and the planet.