

FORUM : FAO

QUESTION : What is the issue concerning the reduction and the management of food waste?

SUBMITTED BY : Algeria

The FAO comission,

Reaffirming Antonio Guterres' speech on the occasion of international food loss and waste awareness day in 2020 that food is a fundamental human right and that every individual should have the right to eat properly,

Noting with concern that according to the latest FAO report, the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World, the number of people affected by hunger has risen to 828 million in 2021, an increase by around 46 million in 2020 and 150 million in 2019. In total, an estimate of 3.1 billion people worldwide lack access to healthy food which is deplorable,

Noting with worries that according to Statista, between 2021 and 2023, about 1.3 billion tonnes of food is lost or wasted, representing one third of the total food produced in the world when millions of people can't eat their fill,

Emphasising that food waste is a devastating environmental scourge. Indeed, if food loss and waste were a country, it would be the third biggest source of greenhouse emissions of the world who are major contributors to global warming, which is gradually destroying our planet. according to the 2021 UNEP food waste index report,

Recalling that according to the Food Security Information Network food crisis are still affecting more than 58 countries of the world in every continent, where more than 250 millions of people are at the emergency level of hunger which is an unacceptable situation,

Strongly recalling that under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in accordance with the provisions of the Article 27 of The United Nations's Charter, each member country must respect the right of everyone to have access to adequate food, which requires States to refrain from taking measures that would deprive anyone of such access.

1. Encourages governments, businesses and other stakeholders to take the necessary steps to put storage advice on food packs and removing "best before date" labels from fruits and vegetables, as some British companies have already done;

2. Encourages nations to show support, to assist and to help countries and their peoples in the midst of a severe food crisis by contributing to the monetary fund set up to assist those countries, or by setting aside 3% of the national tax bill to serve this worthy cause;

3. Asks member countries to sign an agreement to reduce their food-related waste by 30% by 2030, which will hopefully lead to a reduction in greenhouse gases;

4. Requests the governments, in order to raise awareness among all generations, to develop relevant activities for younger children in schools on International Food Loss and Waste Awareness Day.