



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 February 2021

Original: English

Seventy-fifth session

Agenda item 14

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Iraq, Kenya, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

International Year of Millets, 2023

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#) of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Recalling resolution 10/2019 of 28 June 2019, adopted by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its forty-first session,¹

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2019/REP, appendix G.



Considering the urgent need to raise awareness of the climate-resilient and nutritional benefits of millets and to advocate for diversified, balanced and healthy diets through the increased sustainable production and consumption of millets,

Recognizing the important contribution of millets to the cultivation of nutritious foods in climate-adverse environments,

Recalling its resolution [70/259](#) of 1 April 2016, by which it proclaimed the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), as well as its resolution [72/306](#) of 24 July 2018 on the implementation of the Decade, and the need to promote sustainable food systems that foster diversified, balanced and healthy diets that include a variety of foods,

Recognizing that the agriculture sector is inextricably linked with the entire food system and that agricultural technologies and digitalization can add value throughout the food system by improving the sustainability of storage, transport, trade, processing, transformation, retail, loss and waste reduction and recycling, as well as interactions among these processes,

Recalling its resolution [72/239](#) of 20 December 2017, by which it proclaimed the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), and the global launch of the Decade in Rome on 29 May 2019, and cognizant of the important contributions of millets, particularly indigenous crops, to nutrition, livelihoods and incomes of family farmers, especially small-scale family farmers, and that they can thus play an important role in contributing to food security and in eradicating poverty and hence in contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Noting the importance of sustainable farming and production practices to the livelihoods of millions of rural farm families and small family farmers around the world,

Cognizant of the historical contribution of millets to food security, nutrition, livelihoods and incomes of family farmers,

Concerned about the current need to invigorate market recognition of the benefits of millets and to promote efficient value chains,

Calling upon Member States to take effective measures, as appropriate, to help to integrate smallholders into global production, value and supply chains for the sustainable production and consumption of millets,

Recognizing the vast genetic diversity of millets and their adaptive capacities to a range of production environments,

Recognizing also the need to empower women through education, to promote healthy diets,

Recognizing further that the observance of an International Year of Millets in 2023 by the international community would contribute significantly to raising awareness on these issues,

1. *Decides* to declare 2023 the International Year of Millets;
2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and academia, to observe the International Year, as appropriate, through activities aimed at raising awareness of and directing policy attention to the nutritional and health benefits of millet consumption and their suitability for cultivation under adverse and changing climatic conditions, while also directing policy attention to improving value chain efficiencies;

3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the implementation of the International Year;

4. *Also invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, mindful of the provisions of paragraphs 23 to 27 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to inform the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session regarding the implementation of the present resolution, including an evaluation of the International Year;

5. *Stresses* that the costs of all the activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met through voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

6. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to contribute to and support the International Year;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and academia, for appropriate observance.
