



Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 25

Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Juliet **Hay** (New Zealand)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 20 September 2013, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled “Agriculture development, food security and nutrition” and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 23rd, 24th, 32nd, 35th and 40th meetings, on 28 and 29 October, 6 and 14 November and 6 December 2013. An account of the Committee’s discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records ([A/C.2/68/SR.23](#), 24, 32, 35 and 40). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 3rd to 7th meetings, from 9 to 11 October (see [A/C.2/68/SR.3-7](#)).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on agriculture development, food security and nutrition ([A/68/311](#));

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the main decisions and policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security ([A/68/73-E/2013/59](#));

(c) Letter dated 30 September 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Benin to the United Nations and Chair of the Global Coordination Bureau of the Least Developed Countries addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries, held in New York on 27 September 2013 ([A/C.2/68/3](#)).



4. At the 23rd meeting, on 28 October, the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made an introductory statement (see [A/C.2/68/SR.23](#)).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions [A/C.2/68/L.20](#) and Rev.1

5. At the 32nd meeting, on 6 November, the representative of Turkey on behalf of Pakistan and Turkey introduced a draft resolution entitled “International Year of Pulses, 2016” ([A/C.2/68/L.20](#)). Subsequently, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, the Niger, Sri Lanka and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read:

“The General Assembly,

“Welcoming resolution 6/2013 of 22 June 2013 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

“Noting that pulse crops such as lentils, beans, peas and chickpeas are a critical source of plant-based proteins and amino acids for people around the globe,

“Recalling that the World Food Programme and other food aid initiatives use pulses as a critical part of the general food basket,

“Desiring to focus attention on the role that pulses play as part of sustainable food production aimed towards food security and nutrition,

“Recognizing that the properties of pulses make them an environmentally friendly food choice,

“Recognizing also that health organizations around the world recommend eating pulses as part of a healthy diet to address obesity, as well as to prevent and help manage chronic diseases such as diabetes, coronary conditions and cancer,

“Believing that such a celebration would create a unique opportunity to encourage connections throughout the food chain that would better utilize pulse-based proteins, further global production of pulses, better utilize crop rotations and address the challenges in the trade of pulses,

“Affirming the need to heighten public awareness of the nutritional benefits of pulses and to further sustainable agriculture,

“1. Decides to declare 2016 the International Year of Pulses;

“2. Reaffirms Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years;

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

International Year of Pulses in collaboration with Governments, relevant organizations, non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders;

“4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-third session, a focused and concise report on activities resulting from the implementation of the present resolution which elaborates on, inter alia, the evaluation of the International Year of Pulses, and requests the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to keep the Assembly informed of the progress in this regard;

“5. *Underlines* that all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met through voluntary resources;

“6. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to make voluntary contributions and to provide other forms of support to the Year.”

6. At its 40th meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled “International Year of Pulses, 2016” ([A/C.2/68/L.20/Rev.1](#)), submitted by the representatives of Pakistan and Turkey, on behalf of Argentina, Azerbaijan, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, the Niger, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Togo, Ukraine, Turkey and subsequently joined by Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Mauritius.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

8. Also at its 40th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.20/Rev.1](#) (see para. 22, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolutions [A/C.2/68/L.21](#) and [A/C.2/68/L.52](#)

9. At the 32nd meeting, on 6 November, the representative of Fiji, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled “World Soil Day and International Year of Soils” ([A/C.2/68/L.21](#)), which read:

“*The General Assembly,*

“*Noting* that soils constitute the foundation for agricultural development, essential ecosystem functions and food security and hence are key to sustaining life on earth,

“*Affirming* that soils are clearly key to addressing the pressures of a growing population and that recognition, advocacy and support for national efforts in promoting sustainable management of soils are the way ahead if the international community is to guarantee healthy soils for a food-secure world based on stable and sustainable ecosystems, especially under a current trend in which soil degradation is a major threat to the sustainable management of soils,

“*Recalling* resolutions 4/2013 and 5/2013, adopted on 22 June 2013 by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its thirty-eighth session,

“*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

“*Recalling further* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and all its principles, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation) and the commitments made therein and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled ‘The future we want’,

“*Affirming* the urgent need to raise awareness and to promote and facilitate national efforts and actions towards sustainable management of the limited world soil resources,

“1. *Decides* to designate 5 December as World Soil Day and to declare 2015 the International Year of Soils;

“2. *Invites* all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe World Soil Day and the International Year of Soils in an appropriate manner;

“3. *Calls upon* Governments and relevant regional and international organizations to make voluntary contributions and lend other forms of support to World Soil Day and, in particular, to the International Year of Soils, and invites non-governmental organizations, other relevant stakeholders and the private sector to provide voluntary contributions and support to the campaign for and organization of World Soil Day and the International Year of Soils;

“4. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 and in the framework of the Global Soil Partnership, to support and facilitate the implementation of World Soil Day and the International Year of Soils, in direct collaboration with Governments, relevant regional and international organizations, civil society and the general public, and also invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to keep the General Assembly informed of the progress made;

“5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States in order to encourage them to carry out activities to commemorate World Soil Day and the International Year of Soils, and of the organizations of the United Nations system for the provision of necessary assistance to those efforts.”

10. At its 40th meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “World Soil Day and International Year of Soils” ([A/C.2/68/L.52](#)), submitted by the Vice-Chair, Farrah Brown (Jamaica), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.21](#).

11. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

12. Also at the 40th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.52](#) (see para. 22, draft resolution II).

13. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the Russian Federation.

14. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.52](#), draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.21](#) was withdrawn by its sponsors.

C. Draft resolutions [A/C.2/68/L.28](#) and [A/C.2/68/L.56](#)

15. At the 35th meeting, on 14 November, the representative of Fiji, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Agriculture development, food security and nutrition” ([A/C.2/68/L.28](#)), which read:

“The General Assembly,

“Recalling its resolutions [65/178](#) of 20 December 2010, [66/220](#) of 22 December 2011 and [67/228](#) of 21 December 2012,

“Recalling also the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security,

“Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, the outcome document of the 2010 high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 and the outcome document of the special event organized by the President of the General Assembly on 25 September 2013 to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

“Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled ‘The future we want’,

“Acknowledging with appreciation the processes mandated at the Conference on Sustainable Development, which are now under way, in particular the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, as well as the process to develop a technology facilitation mechanism and its related works with regard to agriculture development, food security and nutrition,

“*Recalling* its resolutions [66/221](#) of 22 December 2011 on the International Year of Quinoa, 2013, and [66/222](#) of 22 December 2011 on the International Year of Family Farming, 2014,

“*Expressing concern* that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity are poverty and inequity, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and nutrition and to achieve the objective of reducing by half the proportion of undernourished people no later than 2015, as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

“*Recalling* the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by half the proportion of undernourished people no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving the goals set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

“*Noting with appreciation* the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and nutrition,

“*Welcoming* national, regional and international initiatives and commitments aimed at improving agriculture development, food security and nutrition,

“*Recalling* the commitments made to achieve global food security and to provide adequate and predictable resources through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the financial and policy commitments set out in the L’Aquila Food Security Initiative, and further acknowledging the progress of implementation of the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in support of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

“*Recalling also* the adoption on 10 March 2010 of the Abuja Declaration on Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa by the High-level Conference on the Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa, endorsed by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighteenth ordinary session, in which a call was made for, inter alia, renewed commitment to increasing allocations in national budgets to the agricultural sector and for the adoption of programmes to accelerate the development of value chains for strategic food commodities, build competitive food supply systems and reduce reliance on food imports,

“*Stressing* the importance of increasing sustained financing and targeted investment in the agriculture sector of developing countries, taking into

account specific conditions, development needs and priorities of developing countries, to create a more level playing field in agricultural trade through substantial improvement in market access, substantial reduction in trade-distorting national support and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect as provided in the mandate from the Doha Work Programme of the World Trade Organization, the decision of 1 August 2004 of the General Council of the World Trade Organization and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration,

“Reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet the nutritional needs, especially, of women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as those living in vulnerable situations,

“Stressing the importance of the preservation of the natural resource base for food security,

“Deeply concerned that, according to the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2013*, the number of people that are unable to meet their dietary energy requirements in the world remains unacceptably high and 98 per cent of the undernourished people in the world live in developing countries,

“Remaining deeply concerned about the continuing food insecurity being faced by millions of people in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel,

“Reiterating the urgent need for action to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, as well as the root causes of food insecurity, in a manner consistent with the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security,

“Acknowledging that food losses and waste, estimated at 1.3 billion tons annually, occur in both low- and high-income countries at all stages of the food supply chain, as well as the consumption stage, and recognizing the need to take urgent measures to reduce pre- and post-harvest losses and waste of food,

“Reiterating the importance of empowering rural women as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and nutrition,

“Recognizing that farmers, including small-scale farmers and fisherfolk, pastoralists and foresters, can make important contributions to sustainable development through production activities that are environmentally sound, enhance food security and the livelihood of the poor and invigorate production and sustained economic growth,

“Recognizing also the importance and the positive role of smallholder farmers, including women, cooperatives and indigenous and local communities in developing countries, and their knowledge and practices, in the conservation and sustainable use of traditional crops and biodiversity, as well as livestock

management, for present and future generations as an important contribution to the achievement of food security, as well as in the implementation of development goals in such fields as employment policy, social integration, regional and rural development, agriculture and environmental protection,

“Welcoming the outcome of the thirty-eighth session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held in Rome from 15 to 22 June 2013, in particular the decision to modify the Organization’s first global goal from reducing to eliminating hunger,

“Highlighting the importance of the five strategic objectives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

“Welcoming the outcome of the fortieth session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 7 to 11 October 2013,

“Recognizing the invitation to implement the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012, which are an important tool in the pursuit of the objectives of rural development, responsible investment in agriculture and the fight against hunger and poverty,

“Recognizing also the ongoing open-ended consultative process within the Committee on World Food Security to develop voluntary and non-binding principles for responsible investments in agriculture for the Governments and related multi-stakeholders, including private and public investors, intergovernmental and regional organizations and civil society organizations, and further reiterates the importance of the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security,

“Recognizing further the progress made in the two-year intergovernmental consultative process, based on a twin-track approach, at the Committee on World Food Security to develop a programme of action for addressing food insecurity in protracted crises at the global, regional and national levels and for advancing greater understanding of the multidimensional causes of protracted crises through sharing effective analytical tools to identify the root causes of food insecurity in such crises,

“1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

“2. *Reiterates* the need to adequately and urgently address agriculture development, food security and nutrition in the context of national, regional and international development policies, taking into account the importance of enhancing synergies between sustainable agriculture practices, biodiversity, food security, nutrition and development policies;

“3. *Also reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing food security challenges and the eradication of poverty in relation to food security must be nationally articulated, designed, owned and led and built in consultation with all key stakeholders at the national level, as appropriate, and urges Member States, especially those that suffer from food insecurity, to make

food security and nutrition a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

“4. *Calls upon* the international community to support Africa in the implementation of the various programmes under the New Partnership for Africa’s Development, especially the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

“5. *Welcomes* the progress of the Zero Hunger Challenge launched by the Secretary-General at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012 to advance the collective efforts and cooperation to eliminate hunger and malnutrition;

“6. *Also welcomes* the progress in the implementation of the ‘Scaling Up Nutrition’ movement, which encourages increased political commitment and programmatic alignment to reduce global hunger and undernutrition, with emphasis on tackling undernutrition in women, especially pregnant and lactating women, and children under two years of age;

“7. *Further welcomes* the global launch of the International Year of Quinoa, 2013 and the high-level panel discussion on food security and nutrition, held on 20 February 2013, during the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, which constituted the first step in an ongoing process to focus world attention on the important role of quinoa, the biodiversity and nutritional value of which make it central to the provision of food security and nutrition, and to poverty eradication efforts, to the promotion of the traditional knowledge of the Andean indigenous peoples and raising awareness of their contribution to social, economic and environmental development and to the sharing of good practices in the implementation of the activities for the Year, as indicated in the master plan of activities, entitled ‘A future sown thousands of years ago’, in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

“8. *Stresses* the need to address the root causes of excessive food price volatility, including its structural causes, at all levels, and the need to manage the risks linked to excessively volatile prices in agriculture commodities and their consequences for global food security and nutrition, as well as for smallholder farmers and poor urban dwellers;

“9. *Also stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including through improving the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing public and private investment in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development;

“10. *Encourages* all stakeholders to take part in the inclusive consultation and negotiation processes within the Committee on World Food Security for the development and broader ownership of principles for responsible agricultural investment that enhances food security and nutrition, which are to be submitted for endorsement by the Committee on World Food Security at its forty-first session in October 2014, taking into account existing frameworks, such as the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment

developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Bank;

“11. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience of food and agricultural production to climate change, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought- and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, including the resilience of vulnerable groups and food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation and mitigation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

“12. *Reaffirms* the necessity of promoting, enhancing and supporting more sustainable agriculture, including crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger and is economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and further recognizes the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support food production systems;

“13. *Stresses* the need to enhance sustainable livestock production systems, including through improving pasture land and irrigation schemes in line with national policies, legislation, rules and regulations, enhanced sustainable water management systems and efforts to eradicate and prevent the spread of animal diseases, recognizing that the livelihoods of farmers, including pastoralists, and the health of livestock are intertwined;

“14. *Also stresses* the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for food security and nutrition, and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people;

“15. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition, and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food;

“16. *Encourages* efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, taking into account the specific conditions, development needs and priorities of developing countries, capacity-building and systems development;

“17. *Reaffirms* the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and of their funding, from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector to promote development and to build up resilience to ensure better recovery from crisis

and shock, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research so as to enhance its development impact, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions and promoting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices and research to adapt to and mitigate climate change and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, while giving due consideration to the preservation of genetic resources;

“18. *Acknowledges* the important role of technology facilitation, development, transfer and dissemination in narrowing and closing the technological gap between developed and developing countries and in improving food and agriculture production, and calls in this regard for the establishment of a technology facilitation mechanism for the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies that empower farmers, fisherfolk and foresters in order to achieve sustainable agricultural production;

“19. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists for many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to empower rural women, including access to food and nutritional security for themselves and their families, and to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent conditions for work, and access to local, regional and global markets;

“20. *Invites* Governments and international organizations, in collaboration with cooperatives and cooperative organizations, to promote, as appropriate, the growth of agricultural cooperatives through easy access to affordable finance, the adoption of sustainable production techniques, investment in rural infrastructure and irrigation, strengthened marketing mechanisms and support for the participation of women in economic activities;

“21. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity in different regions of the world and its ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

“22. *Welcomes* the launching of the regional road map of the Global Alliance for Resilience Initiative, Sahel, in June 2013, which provides a regional guidance framework setting forth the overall objectives of the Alliance and which serves as the basis for formulating national resilience priorities, operational frameworks for funding, implementation, monitoring and assessment for building greater resilience among vulnerable populations in the Sahel by creating greater synergy between emergency actions and long-term strategies aimed at addressing the root causes of food crises;

“23. *Recognizes* the important contribution of indigenous peoples and their traditional sustainable agricultural practices, including their traditional seed supply systems, notes the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the context of food security, and in this regard calls upon States to take special

actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples;

“24. *Also recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of systems should be strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

“25. *Further recognizes* the importance of timely, accurate and transparent information in helping to address excessive food price volatility, notes global and regional initiatives, including the Agricultural Market Information System and its Rapid Response Forum, hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Food Security Information System of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Asia-Pacific Information Platform on Food Security, and urges international organizations, private sector actors and Governments to participate and ensure the public dissemination of timely and quality food market information products;

“26. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture and rural development sectors, notably in developing countries, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to better address the needs of rural communities through, inter alia, enhancing access by agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, indigenous peoples and people living in vulnerable situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

“27. *Urges* Member States and international organizations to pursue policies and strategies that improve the functioning of national, regional and international markets and ensure equitable access for all to those markets, especially smallholder and women farmers in developing countries, notes the importance of non-trade-distorting special measures that are consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization aimed at creating incentives for smallholder farmers in developing countries to enable them to increase their productivity and to compete on a more equal footing in world food markets, and urges Member States to refrain from taking measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization and that have adverse impacts on global, regional and national food security;

“28. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the participation of farmers, especially smallholder farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets;

“29. *Welcomes* the convening of the Ninth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, to be held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 6 December 2013, and further urges Member States to work for the successful conclusion of the Doha Development Round of trade negotiations, including a

development-oriented outcome that ensures substantial improvement in market access, substantial reduction in trade-distorting national support and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures, with equivalent effect, as provided in the mandate from the Doha Work Programme, the framework adopted by the General Council of the World Trade Organization on 1 August 2004 and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration adopted by the World Trade Organization in 2005, so as to ensure fair and equitable growth in global trade and create new market access opportunities for developing countries;

“30. *Stresses* the need to remove food export restrictions or extraordinary taxes on food purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes by the World Food Programme, and not to impose them in the future;

“31. *Also stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards agriculture development, food security and nutrition;

“32. *Further stresses* the need to significantly reduce post-harvest and other food losses and waste throughout the food supply chain through, inter alia, increased promotion of appropriate harvesting practices, agro-food processing, appropriate facilities for the storage, packaging of food and sustainable consumption patterns;

“33. *Recognizes* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a key organ in addressing the issue of global food security, including in the context of the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition;

“34. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the productive capacity of developing countries, in particular their small-scale producers, by, inter alia, improving the proper functioning of markets, storage, rural infrastructure, research and pre-harvest and post-harvest practices, in order to enhance the production, productivity and nutritional quality of food crops and promote sustainable practices in agricultural activities;

“35. *Also encourages* further dissemination and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security, as endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security on 11 May 2012;

“36. *Looks forward* to the implementation of the International Year of Family Farming in 2014, recognizes the important contribution that family farming and smallholder farming can play in providing food security and eradicating poverty in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and invites Member

States, United Nations agencies, farmer's organizations and other partners to join efforts to successfully observe the International Year;

“37. *Reaffirms* the commitments to making every effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 in support of developing countries, in particular those countries that are lagging most behind and those Goals that are most off track, thus improving the lives of the poorest people;

“38. *Invites* Member States and other stakeholders to increase efforts at the national, regional and international levels to address the issue of agriculture development, food security and nutrition as an integral part of the international development agenda, including in the ongoing intergovernmental processes on the post-2015 development agenda;

“39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on developments related to issues highlighted in the present resolution;

“40. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session an item entitled ‘Agriculture development, food security and nutrition’.”

16. At its 40th meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Agriculture development, food security and nutrition” ([A/C.2/68/L.56](#)), submitted by the Vice-Chair, Farrah Brown (Jamaica), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.28](#).

17. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.56](#) had no programme budget implications.

18. Also at the 40th meeting, the representative of the Dominican Republic, in her capacity as the facilitator of the draft resolution, orally corrected the draft resolution (see [A/C.2/68/SR.40](#)).

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.56](#), as orally corrected (see para. 22, draft resolution III).

20. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see [A/C.2/68/SR.40](#)).

21. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.56](#), draft resolution [A/C.2/68/L.28](#) was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

22. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I **International Year of Pulses, 2016**

The General Assembly,

Noting that pulses are annual leguminous crops yielding between 1 and 12 grains or seeds of variable size, shape and colour within a pod, used for both food and feed, and that the term “pulses” is limited to crops harvested solely for dry grain, thereby excluding crops harvested green for food, which are classified as vegetable crops, as well as those crops used mainly for oil extraction and leguminous crops that are used exclusively for sowing purposes,¹

Noting also that pulse crops such as lentils, beans, peas and chickpeas are a critical source of plant-based proteins and amino acids for people around the globe, as well as a source of plant-based protein for animals,

Recalling that the World Food Programme and other food aid initiatives use pulses as a critical part of the general food basket,

Desiring to focus attention on the role that pulses play as part of sustainable food production aimed towards food security and nutrition,

Recognizing that pulses are leguminous plants that have nitrogen-fixing properties which can contribute to increasing soil fertility and have a positive impact on the environment,

Recognizing also that health organizations around the world recommend eating pulses as part of a healthy diet to address obesity, as well as to prevent and help manage chronic diseases such as diabetes, coronary conditions and cancer,

Believing that such a celebration would create a unique opportunity to encourage connections throughout the food chain that would better utilize pulse-based proteins, further global production of pulses, better utilize crop rotations and address the challenges in the trade of pulses,

Affirming the need to heighten public awareness of the nutritional benefits of pulses and to further sustainable agriculture,

Reaffirming that, pursuant to paragraphs 13 and 14 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980, a year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

¹ Based on the definition of “pulses and derived products” of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Welcoming resolution 6/2013 of 22 June 2013 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,²

1. *Decides* to declare 2016 the International Year of Pulses;
2. *Reaffirms* Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years;
3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, mindful of provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the implementation of the Year in collaboration with Governments, relevant organizations, non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a focused and concise report, while bearing in mind paragraphs 23 to 27 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, on activities resulting from the implementation of the present resolution, which elaborates on, inter alia, the evaluation of the Year;
5. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to keep the General Assembly informed of progress in this regard;
6. *Stresses* that the costs of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution above and beyond activities currently within the mandate of the lead agency should be met through voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;
7. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to make voluntary contributions and to provide other forms of support to the Year.

² See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-eighth Session, Rome, 15-22 June 2013* (C 2013/REP).

Draft resolution II

World Soil Day and International Year of Soils

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming General Assembly 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, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of its annex on the agreed criteria for their proclamation, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14 stating that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Noting that soils constitute the foundation for agricultural development, essential ecosystem functions and food security and hence are key to sustaining life on Earth,

Recognizing that the sustainability of soils is key to addressing the pressures of a growing population and that recognition, advocacy and support for promoting sustainable management of soils can contribute to healthy soils and thus to a food-secure world and to stable and sustainably used ecosystems,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ Agenda 21,² the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,³ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,⁴ the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)⁵ and the commitments made therein and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,⁶

Recognizing the economic and social significance of good land management, including soil, particularly its contribution to economic growth, biodiversity, sustainable agriculture and food security, eradicating poverty, women’s empowerment, addressing climate change and improving water availability, and stressing that desertification, land degradation and drought are challenges of a global dimension and that they continue to pose serious challenges to the sustainable development of all countries, in particular developing countries,

Recognizing also the urgent need at all levels to raise awareness and to promote sustainability of the limited soil resources using the best available scientific information and building on all dimensions of sustainable development,

Noting that the World Soil Day and the International Year of Soils can contribute to raising awareness of desertification, land degradation and drought, in line with the objective of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ Resolution 66/288, annex.

in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,⁷

Recognizing that, for these reasons, an international year and world day on the same issue on soil could exceptionally be proclaimed at the same time without constituting a precedent,

Recalling resolutions 4/2013 and 5/2013 adopted on 22 June 2013 by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its thirty-eighth session,⁸

1. *Decides* to designate 5 December as World Soil Day and to declare 2015 the International Year of Soils;

2. *Invites* all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe World Soil Day and the International Year of Soils, as appropriate;

3. *Invites* Governments, relevant regional and international organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to make voluntary contributions for the observance of World Soil Day and the International Year of Soils;

4. *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, and in the framework of the Global Soil Partnership to facilitate the implementation of the World Soil Day and the International Year of Soils, in collaboration with Governments, the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa⁷ and other relevant regional and international organizations, civil society and the general public, and also invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to keep the General Assembly informed of the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including on the evaluation of the Day and the Year;

5. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, subject to the availability and provision of voluntary contributions;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States in order to encourage them to carry out activities to commemorate World Soil Day and the International Year of Soils.

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

⁸ See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-eighth Session, Rome, 15-22 June 2013* (C 2013/REP).

Draft resolution III

Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [65/178](#) of 20 December 2010, [66/220](#) of 22 December 2011 and [67/228](#) of 21 December 2012,

Recalling also the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,¹ particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security,

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,² Agenda 21,³ the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,⁴ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁵ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),⁶ the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁷ the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁸ the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,⁹ the outcome document of the 2010 high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,¹⁰ the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020¹¹ and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,¹² convened by the President of the General Assembly on 25 September 2013,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,¹³

Noting the processes agreed upon at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, which are now under way, in particular the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the Intergovernmental Committee of

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

² *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

³ *Ibid.*, annex II.

⁴ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁵ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁶ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁷ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁸ Resolution 60/1.

⁹ Resolution 63/239, annex.

¹⁰ Resolution 65/1.

¹¹ *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

¹² Resolution 68/6.

¹³ Resolution 66/288, annex.

Experts on Sustainable Development Financing, as well as the process to develop options for a technology facilitation mechanism,

Recalling its resolutions [66/221](#) of 22 December 2011 on the International Year of Quinoa, 2013, and [66/222](#) of 22 December 2011 on the International Year of Family Farming, 2014,

Expressing concern that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments, civil society and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity and undernutrition are poverty and inequity, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and improved nutrition and to achieve the objective of reducing by half the proportion of undernourished people no later than 2015, as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,¹⁴ including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by half the proportion of undernourished people no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving the goals set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹⁵

Noting with appreciation the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and improving nutrition outcomes,

Welcoming national, regional and international initiatives and commitments aimed at improving agriculture development, food security and nutrition,

Recalling the commitments made to achieve global food security, to reduce undernutrition and to provide adequate and predictable resources through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the financial and policy commitments set out in the L'Aquila Food Security Initiative, and acknowledging the progress made in implementing the commitments under the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition in support of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

Recalling also the adoption on 10 March 2010 of the Abuja Declaration on Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa by the High-level Conference on the Development of Agribusiness and Agro-industries in Africa, endorsed by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighteenth ordinary session, in which a call was made for, inter alia, renewed commitment to increasing allocations in national budgets to the agricultural sector and for the adoption of

¹⁴ A/57/499, annex.

¹⁵ Resolution 55/2.

programmes to accelerate the development of value chains for strategic food commodities, build competitive food supply systems and reduce reliance on food imports,

Reaffirming that agriculture remains a fundamental and key sector for developing countries, and noting the importance of working towards eliminating all forms of protectionism and the commitments to comprehensive negotiations aimed at substantial improvement in market access, substantial reduction in trade-distorting national support and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect as provided in the mandate from the Doha Work Programme,¹⁶ the framework adopted by the General Council of the World Trade Organization on 1 August 2004 and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration adopted by the World Trade Organization in 2005,

Reaffirming also the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet the nutritional needs, especially, of women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as those living in vulnerable situations,

Stressing the importance of the preservation and sustainable use of the natural resource base for food security and nutrition, including, inter alia, through the sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity,

Remaining deeply concerned that, according to the most recent estimates of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 842 million people, or one in eight people in the world, suffer from chronic hunger and that 98 per cent of all hungry people live in developing countries, noting with concern that this number remains particularly high, and noting also that stunting is an important challenge to be addressed by Member States,

Remaining deeply concerned also about the continuing food insecurity and undernutrition being faced by millions of people in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel,

Reiterating the urgent need for action to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, as well as the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition,

Acknowledging that food losses and waste, estimated at 1.3 billion tons annually, occur in lower- and higher-income countries at all stages of the food supply chain, as well as the consumption stage, and recognizing the need to take urgent measures to reduce pre- and post-harvest losses and waste of food,

Reiterating the importance of empowering rural women as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development, food security and improved nutrition outcomes,

Recognizing that farmers, including small-scale farmers and fisherfolk, pastoralists and foresters, can make important contributions to sustainable development through production activities that are environmentally sound, enhance

¹⁶ See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

food security and nutrition outcomes, improve the livelihoods of the poor and invigorate production and sustained economic growth,

Recognizing also the importance of smallholder and family farmers, including women, cooperatives, indigenous peoples and local communities in developing countries, and their knowledge and practices, in the conservation and sustainable use of traditional crops and biodiversity, as well as livestock management, which play a positive role in contributing to the achievement of food security and improved nutrition outcomes, as well as in the implementation of development goals in such fields as employment policy, social integration, regional and rural development, agriculture and environmental protection,

Welcoming the outcome of the thirty-eighth session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held in Rome from 15 to 22 June 2013, in particular the decision to modify the Organization's first global goal from reducing to eradicating hunger,

Highlighting the importance of the five strategic objectives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Welcoming the outcome of the fortieth session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 7 to 11 October 2013,

Recognizing the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security¹⁷ by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012,

Recognizing also the ongoing inclusive consultative process within the Committee on World Food Security to develop voluntary and non-binding principles for responsible agricultural investments intended for all stakeholders that are involved in, benefit from, or are affected by those principles,

Noting with appreciation the progress made in the consultative process, based on a twin-track approach, at the Committee on World Food Security to develop a programme of action for addressing food insecurity in protracted crises at the global, regional and national levels and for advancing greater understanding of the multidimensional causes of protracted crises through sharing effective analytical tools to identify the root causes of food insecurity in such crises,

Taking note of the reports of the High-level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security on biofuels and food security and on investing in smallholder agriculture for food security,

Taking note also of the results of the global thematic consultation on hunger, food security and nutrition, jointly led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Food Programme, and presented in Madrid in April 2013,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁸
2. *Reiterates* the need to adequately and urgently address agriculture development, food security and nutrition in the context of national, regional and

¹⁷ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

¹⁸ A/68/311.

international development policies, taking into account the importance of enhancing synergies between sustainable agriculture practices, biodiversity, food security, nutrition and development policies;

3. *Also reiterates* the importance of developing countries' determining their own food security strategies, that improving food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing this challenge in the context of eradicating poverty must be nationally articulated, designed, owned, led and built in consultation with all key stakeholders at the national level, as appropriate, and urges Member States, especially those affected, to make food security and nutrition a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to support Africa in the implementation of the various programmes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development,¹⁹ especially the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

5. *Welcomes* the Secretary-General's Zero Hunger Challenge, and the aim of a world free from hunger, and takes note of the progress made in improving cooperation, coordination and coherence by all stakeholders to overcome the challenges of hunger and malnutrition;

6. *Also welcomes* the six global targets set by the World Health Assembly to address global malnutrition;

7. *Takes note* of the Global Nutrition for Growth Compact, signed by more than 100 countries, companies and civil society organizations, to reduce the number of stunted children by 20 million by 2020 and the financial commitments made to support this;

8. *Also takes note* of the report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on its thirty-eighth session, which highlights, inter alia, the importance of the development of measures to protect Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems;

9. *Welcomes* the increased political commitment by Member States to tackle hunger and undernutrition and in this regard welcomes the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, and encourages Member States to engage in the SUN Movement at the global and country levels, to further reduce global hunger and undernutrition, in particular in women, especially pregnant and lactating women, and children under age 2;

10. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen national information systems, as appropriate, in addressing the challenges of malnutrition and in assessing progress, in order to stimulate coordinated and informed action at national, regional and global levels;

11. *Welcomes* the activities of the International Year of Quinoa, 2013, which have focused attention on the important role of quinoa, its biodiversity and nutritional value, as a way of promoting the traditional knowledge of the Andean and other indigenous peoples, contributing to the achievement of food security, improved nutrition and poverty eradication, raising awareness of their contribution

¹⁹ A/57/304, annex.

to social, economic and environmental development, and sharing good practices in the implementation of the Year;

12. *Stresses* the need to address the root causes of excessive food price volatility, including its structural causes, at all levels, and the need to manage the risks linked to excessively volatile prices in agriculture commodities and their consequences for global food security and nutrition, as well as for smallholder farmers and poor urban dwellers;

13. *Also stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including through improving the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing public and private investment in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development, and notes the benefit of such public and private investment and engagement to local smallholders with regard to promoting food security and improving nutrition outcomes;

14. *Encourages* all stakeholders to take part in the inclusive consultation and negotiation processes within the Committee on World Food Security for the development and broader ownership of principles for responsible agricultural investment that enhances food security and nutrition, which are to be submitted for endorsement by the Committee on World Food Security at its forty-first session in October 2014, taking into account existing frameworks, such as the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Bank;

15. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience of food and agricultural production to climate change, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought- and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, including measures to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable groups and food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

16. *Reaffirms* the necessity to promote, enhance and support more sustainable agriculture, including crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger and is economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and further recognizes the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support food production systems;

17. *Stresses* the need to enhance sustainable livestock production systems, including through improving pasture land and irrigation schemes in line with national policies, legislation, rules and regulations, enhanced sustainable water management systems, and efforts to eradicate and prevent the spread of animal diseases, recognizing that the livelihoods of farmers, including pastoralists, and the health of livestock are intertwined;

18. *Also stresses* the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for food security and nutrition, and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people;

19. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger for the most vulnerable and medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition, and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty, including through the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security;

20. *Encourages* efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, capacity-building and systems development;

21. *Reaffirms* the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, extension services, training and education, and of their funding, from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector to promote development and to build up resilience to support better recovery from crisis and shock, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research so as to enhance its development impact, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions, and promoting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices and research to adapt to and mitigate climate change and improve equitable access to research results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, while giving due consideration to the preservation of genetic resources;

22. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists for many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to empower women, in particular rural women, as well as to address their own food and nutritional needs and those of their families, and to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent conditions for work and access to local, regional and global markets;

23. *Invites* Governments and international organizations, in collaboration with cooperatives and cooperative organizations, to promote, as appropriate, the growth of agricultural cooperatives and farmers' networks, by providing easy access to affordable finance, promoting the adoption of sustainable production techniques and investment in rural infrastructure and irrigation, and strengthening marketing mechanisms and support for the participation of women in economic activities;

24. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity and undernutrition in different regions of the world and its ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

25. *Welcomes* the launch of the Regional Road Map under the Global Alliance for Resilience Initiative, Sahel, and emphasizes the need to improve the synergy, coherence and effectiveness of resilience initiatives in the region, including the need to link emergency and relief actions and longer-term strategies and programmes aimed at addressing the root causes of food crises, to build resilience among vulnerable populations in the Sahel;

26. *Notes* the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the context of food security and nutrition, and in this regard calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples;

27. *Recognizes* the role of indigenous peoples and small farmers and their traditional seed supply systems in the conservation of biodiversity and food security;

28. *Also recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of systems should be strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

29. *Further recognizes* the importance of timely, accurate and transparent information in helping to address excessive food price volatility, notes global and regional initiatives, including the Agricultural Market Information System and its Rapid Response Forum, hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Food Security Information System and the Asia-Pacific Information Platform on Food Security, and urges international organizations, private sector actors and Governments to participate and ensure the public dissemination of timely and quality food market information products;

30. *Recognizes* the importance of concrete initiatives aimed at improving protection for the most vulnerable against excessive price volatility through risk management strategies, tools and instruments, such as the pilot project led by the Economic Community of West African States for a targeted regional emergency humanitarian food reserve;

31. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture and rural development sectors, notably in developing countries, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to better address the needs of rural communities through, inter alia, enhancing access by agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, indigenous peoples and people living in vulnerable situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

32. *Urges* Member States and international organizations to pursue policies and strategies that improve the functioning of national, regional and international markets and ensure equitable access for all to those markets, especially smallholder and women farmers in developing countries, notes the importance of non-trade-distorting special measures that are consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization aimed at creating incentives for smallholder farmers in developing

countries to enable them to increase their productivity and to compete on a more equal footing in world food markets, and urges Member States to refrain from taking measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization and that have adverse impacts on global, regional and national food security;

33. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the participation of farmers, especially smallholder farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets;

34. *Welcomes* the convening of the Ninth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, in Bali, Indonesia, to be held in the first week of December 2013;

35. *Stresses* the need to remove food export restrictions or extraordinary taxes on food purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes by the World Food Programme, and not to impose them in the future;

36. *Also stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards sustainable agriculture development, food security and nutrition;

37. *Further stresses* the need to significantly reduce post-harvest and other food losses and waste throughout the food supply chain through, inter alia, increased promotion of appropriate harvesting practices, agro-food processing, appropriate facilities for the storage and packaging of food and encouraging sustainable consumption patterns;

38. *Recognizes* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a key organ in addressing the issue of global food security and nutrition;

39. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the productive capacity of developing countries, in particular their small-scale producers, by, inter alia, improving the proper functioning of markets, storage, rural infrastructure, research and pre-harvest and post-harvest practices, in order to enhance the production, productivity and nutritional quality of food crops and promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities;

40. *Also encourages* countries to give due consideration to the dissemination, promotion and implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,¹⁷ as endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security on 11 May 2012;

41. *Looks forward* to the implementation of the International Year of Family Farming in 2014, recognizes the important contribution that family farming and smallholder farming can play in providing food security, reducing malnutrition and eradicating poverty in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, stresses the importance of development strategies for family farming and smallholder farming as appropriate, and invites Member States, United Nations agencies, farmers' organizations and other partners to join efforts to successfully observe the International Year;

42. *Reaffirms* the commitments to making every effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 in support of developing countries, in particular those countries that are lagging most behind and those Goals that are most off track, thus improving the lives of the poorest people;

43. *Encourages* Member States and all stakeholders to give appropriate consideration to agriculture development, food security and nutrition in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on developments related to issues highlighted in the present resolution;

45. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session the item entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition".
