

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON FOOD SECURITY

Submitted by Gambia, Rep of Guinea, Cambodia, and Antigua and Barbuda

WHEREAS the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was established on 16 October 1945 to defeat global hunger and has 194 Member States, 2 Associate Members and 1 Member Organization;

WHEREAS the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW) was signed on December 2, 1946 and that the International Whaling Commission (IWC) has 88 Member States;

WHEREAS the United Nations estimate that the global population is expected to increase from 7.2 billion today – of which 870 million are designated as hungry – to 9.6 billion by 2050;

WHEREAS the FAO has as its vision, “A world in which the responsible and sustainable use of fisheries and aquaculture resources makes an appreciable contribution to human well-being, food security and poverty alleviation”;

WHEREAS the FAO has as its mission, “To strengthen global governance and the managerial and technical capacities of members and to lead consensus building towards improved conservation and utilization of aquaculture resources”;

RECALLING that the ICRW recognizes in its preamble, “that it is in the common interest to achieve the optimal level of whale stocks as rapidly as possible without widespread economic and nutritional distress”;

RECALLING the right of every person to an adequate standard of living including food as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

RECALLING paragraph 158 of the outcome document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 “The Future We Want”, 20-22 June 2012) conveying the “importance of the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and of their resources for sustainable development, including through their contributions to poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, food security and creation of sustainable livelihoods and decent work, while at the same time protecting biodiversity and the marine environment and addressing the impacts of climate change”;

RECALLING the United Nations Millennium Development Goals which aim, “to halve between 1990 and 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger”;

RECALLING that UN Sustainable Development Goal 14 is to, “Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”;

RECALLING the UN DESA 2014 to “improve human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities”;

NOTING that the responsible and sustainable management of the fisheries sector remains a critical objective to strengthen food and nutrition strategies within developing countries;

NOTING that whales have been harvested for nutritional needs for thousands of years;

NOTING that the FAO has established five strategic objectives namely:

- Help eliminate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition;
- Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable;
- Reduce rural poverty;
- Enable inclusive and efficient agriculture food systems;
- Increase the resilience of livelihoods to disasters.

NOTING further that IWC members are Member States of the FAO;

RECOGNIZING the importance of food and nutritional security to the world's poorest and the need to engage in responsible and sustainable management of marine resources;

RECOGNIZING the value of world cultural diversity, the existence of different food production methods, and the individuals and communities that practice sustainable hunting under the Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling (ASW) of the IWC;

AFFIRMING our solidarity with communities whose food supply depends primarily on whales, considering their nutritional needs, cultural identities and livelihoods;

AFFIRMING the inherent link between food security and nutrition, preservation of cultural identity and security of livelihoods when delivering on global sustainable development goals;

CONSIDERING that convergence of the visions of the FAO and the IWC and cooperation between them will further enhance the ability of both organizations to fulfill their respective missions;

NOW THEREFORE THE COMMISSION:

REAFFIRMS Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stating the right of all persons to an adequate standard of living including food;

URGES Parties to take into consideration the need to ensure, among others, food security and nutrition, preservation of cultural identity and security of livelihoods in any decision making;

URGES the parties to take into consideration the Blue Economy and Blue Growth perspectives in relation to food security for optimized benefits (economic and non-economic) from the marine ecosystem, in that way promoting societal foot print.

RESOLVES to set up an ad hoc committee to recommend how the IWC can in the future take into consideration the need to achieve food and nutritional security for many of the world's populations when making changes to the Schedule;

INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to forward this Resolution to the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations with a request for increased exchange of information between the FAO and the IWC.