

RESOLUTION ON FOOD SECURITY

Submitted by Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Republic of Guinea, Benin

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”*;

RECOGNIZING that although the right to food is a basic human right, millions of the world's poor are unable to enjoy security in food in spite of the abundance of marine resources;

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

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

CONSIDERING that all States have a duty and responsibility to contribute to strategies designed to ensure that MDG#1 which aims *“to eliminate extreme poverty and hunger”* by one-half is met;

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 that some communities depend on ocean resources – including whales – for their food and nutritional needs as well as their cultural identity and that the IWC recognizes these needs;

AFFIRMING our solidarity with those States and indigenous communities which depend on whale resources to avert food and nutritional deprivation and for the preservation of their cultural identities;

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

RECOGNIZING the challenges of satisfying the aims of (a) achieving sustainable increases of fisheries production to provide food and (b) protecting the natural environment;

NOW THEREFORE THE COMMISSION:

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

URGES Member States to take into account the need for *inter alia*, food and nutrition security, preservation of cultural identity and security of livelihoods when making proposed amendments to the Schedule;

RESOLVES to take into account the need to achieve food and nutrition security for many of the world's populations when making its decisions;

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.