

RESOLUTION ON

FOOD SECURITY, LIMITED WATER RESOURCES AND STABILITY

IN THE OSCE AREA

1. Underlining that security is indivisible and that, as a result, in the case of food security it represents a global question and that the interests of any State may not be defended to the detriment of another,
2. Noting that the indivisibility of security implies that common values also require a shared effort and a joint commitment to food security, i.e., to the availability of, and populations' access to safe, wholesome food, primarily locally produced,
3. Recognizing that indivisibility means that we are all producers and consumers of food security in the same manner and that it is therefore becoming increasingly necessary to talk not only of security in the OSCE area but also security of the OSCE area in its relationships with third parties,
4. Emphasizing, as a result, the fact that the indivisibility of security must be considered in two contexts: on the one hand, that of violations of international law and fundamental human rights committed by one State against another State and, on the other hand, that of cross-cutting global challenges which confront all OSCE participating States without exception as a result of globalisation, global population growth and the increasing scarcity of natural resources,
5. Also emphasizing the fact that the prevention of conflicts and the peaceful settlement of disputes based on the principles of the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 through dialogue between peoples and governments are also essential to ensuring food security,
6. Underlining that, although the right to food is specifically mentioned in article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it is nevertheless the case that international and local food security is becoming increasingly important and is becoming a factor of political and economic security and stability in the OSCE area,
7. Noting that following the steep increase in the price of staple foods - also due to the speculation on raw materials - which occurred internationally from 2008 onwards, the populations of several countries are no longer able to meet their food requirements, which has caused political problems in some cases,
8. Also noting that given its growth and changing consumption patterns, the world population is significantly increasing the demand for food, while the changing climate and the resulting scarcity of land and water resources make production increasingly difficult,

9. Also noting that the emerging scarcity of resources is inciting private and public investors to acquire vast areas of land and rights to water worldwide, which could lead to a breakdown of social and economic structures in the countries concerned and which increases the risk of food insecurity,
10. Also noting that for some time now we have seen food exporting States unilaterally restricting their exports in order to guarantee the supply to their own population to fight against the lack of food and price increases in the internal market, but at the risk of compromising food security in States dependent on food imports,
11. Recalling that with the resolution entitled "The Food Crisis and Security in the OSCE Area" adopted in the Vilnius Declaration of 2009, OSCE participating States have already made food security a priority of their agenda, demanding greater engagement in the Organization's three areas of activity which are the prevention of conflicts, co-operation in the fields of economics and of the environment, and human rights, because the right to food must be considered a right inextricably linked to other fundamental human rights and political rights,
12. Also recalling that in the resolution mentioned above, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly welcomed and approved the Statement of the Madrid High-Level Meeting on Food Security for All which was adopted by 126 countries on 27 January 2009,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

13. Reiterates that ensuring local and international food security is a major challenge which will become yet more important for security inside and outside the OSCE area;
14. Emphasizes the fact that it is necessary to recognize the principle of food sovereignty as a necessary prerequisite for international and local food security;
15. Underlines emphatically that water resources, which are set to decrease, play a key role in guaranteeing food security and that the struggle to allocate these resources presents an enormous risk of conflict of which the OSCE must take greater account in its future efforts;
16. Asks that it be family farms, the services of which are highlighted in the 2014 International Year of Family Farming, which continue to guarantee the sustainable supply of food to the world's growing population and that policy should create the general conditions required for this important task;
17. Also asks that participating States immediately improve conditions of life and infrastructure in rural areas with sufficient policy and financial measures and, by doing so, consolidate the population of rural regions, agricultural production and the value creation chain in upstream and downstream agricultural sectors;

18. Also asks that participating States immediately strengthen the security of the right to use land and water resources for the benefit of agriculture and rural populations;
19. Underlines the necessity of pursuing, systematically and beyond 2015, the UN's sustainable development goals to fight against hunger and malnutrition and to strengthen these efforts, particularly in rural regions where the vast majority of people suffering from hunger in the world live;
20. Asks that participating States immediately strengthen, at local and international level, producer organizations and co-operatives which are based on the principles of grass-roots democracy, and involve them in the conception of opportunities for training, outreach and research;
21. Requests greater coherence in the sometimes contradictory strategies of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization on local and international food security.