

FORUM: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, SUB-COMMISSION 1
QUESTION OF: THE RISE OF EXTREME POVERTY IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
SUBMITTED BY: Poland

CO-SUBMITTERS: UNDP, Pakistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Algeria, Czech Republic, United Kingdom, Afghanistan, USA, FAO, Benin, Saudi Arabia, Rwanda, Georgia, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Bolivia, Samoa, Canada, Russian Federation, Belarus, Eritrea

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE 1,

Noting with concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa has increased to a worrying scale of 437 million people,

Further noting the complex problems such as lack of education, disease, climate change, lack of access to water and food that have resulted in the rise of extreme poverty,

Defining extreme poverty as living on \$1.90 or less a day, as stated by the World Bank,

Alarmed by studies that state that by 2030, around 9 out of 10 people living in extreme poverty will live in Sub-Saharan Africa,

Expressing its appreciation of the UN Declaration on the Critical Economic Situation in Africa, which helped provide insights to the population on the matter,

Reaffirming Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights “Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing, and medical care and necessary social services”,

Deeply concerned that around 250 million Sub-Saharan Africans are likely to face water shortages and will lack basic necessities by 2020,

Acknowledging that poverty and unemployment goes side by side, and the problem of unemployment gives rise to the problem of poverty,

Fully aware that 28 of the 47 poorest countries in the world are from Sub-Saharan Africa,

1. Urges the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to take appropriate measures to increase distribution and access to water in rural areas of Sub-Saharan Africa and LEDCs (Less Economically Developed Countries) in a sustainable manner by advancing existing water-management methods through measures such as but not limited to the “decentralized retention and collection of rain and storm water,” leading to a reduced risk of flooding in cases of heavy rain, specifically better water capture in high risk areas (i.e Mozambique and Namibia) and the reduction of wastage of freshwater, as well as to protect environmental systems such as swamplands, etc;
2. Recommends preventing the creation of new environmentally hazardous energy extraction production for MEDC’s (More Economically Developed Countries) such as but not limited to coal mines, fracking/natural gas, oil drilling, etc. by 2040, in an effort to reduce the effects of detrimental by-products on Sub-Saharan African deserts and its consequential effect on the agricultural industry;
3. Further urges the prevention of corruption in Sub-Saharan Africa by the International Anti-Corruption Court(IACC), by using methods such as but not limited to:
 - a) Stopping impunity and leveraging international resources to support the creation and maintenance of good governance and aligning anti-corruption measures with social and market forces
 - b) Establishing an Office of Ombudsperson in each Sub-Saharan country to prevent

corruption under the framework of IACC;

4. Asks for the development of social services, and specifically infrastructure, in rural and underpopulated areas in order to create improved living standards for the general public by means such as:
 - a) the improvement or establishment of social services primarily for those living in poverty, including, but not limited to:
 - i. advanced public healthcare facilities, which may provide all necessary medical equipment for diagnosis and treatment, and allows volunteers from these organizations to set up temporary clinics for locals that are free and available to all
 - ii. advanced public education facilities, as well as vocational training programmes that specialise in practices other than agriculture in an attempt to diversify the local economy;
5. Encourages the introduction of more jobs in a variety of sectors and industries in rural and underpopulated areas, specifically independent of agricultural professions through means such as:
 - a) promoting and publicising the benefits of supporting domestically produced goods, and thus sustaining the local economy and population
 - b) the creation of Microloan programmes supporting the growth of individual and small businesses independent of agricultural practices
 - c) advanced social services, which in turn will require the advancement of infrastructural properties, which will promote jobs such as maintenance and service work
 - d) education for adults currently in extreme poverty to receive technical skills training for long-term jobs that will help bolster the economy that cover a variety of sectors;
6. Requests building upon the Economic Inclusion into Value Chains project, that is currently in effect in Côte d'Ivoire, which will aim to help integrate poor households in other Sub-Saharan African countries into value chains in order to:
 - a) increase output of a product that is growing in demand
 - b) improve jobs involved with the product
 - c) connect vulnerable population groups with real markets;
7. Proposes a possible unilateral treaty between African countries and countries they are in debt to in order to decrease the debt owed to them by:
 - a) an exchange of resources
 - b) encourage active trade between African nations and internationally to battle stagflation in the region
 - c) promote employment
 - d) stabilize currencies
 - e) incentivise the production of domestic goods;
8. Strongly Encourages NGOs and non-state actors to provide necessities that are needed for education and support governments to improve environment and quality of education in order to increase job opportunities for the younger generations by:
 - a) providing funds to schools and students in need of school supplies, including textbooks and school utensils and creating fund-raising campaigns to expand the goal for donations by using social media to spread global awareness of the importance of education and the number of Sub-Saharan African students who are not able to receive primary education
 - b) giving students higher opportunities for scholarships or need based funds as well as nurturing students willing to develop their knowledge by suggesting organizations and charities provide their own scholarship for students and to provide students with opportunities to develop their talents
 - c) establishing a program for students that have finished tertiary education to be connected with human resources at companies in order to:

- i. create more job opportunities for younger generations which can prevent the increase in unemployment rate
 - ii. allow students to utilise their schooling in sectors other than agriculture;
9. Calls upon the Committee on World Food (CFS), United Nations Water (UN-Water), World Health Organisation (WHO), World Bank to collaborate on a project that eradicates, discusses and focuses on the five causal areas of extreme poverty which are food, clean drinking water/sanitation facilities, health, shelter, and education/information:
 - a) the project will work towards both short and long term solutions including but not limited to:
 - i. provide basic food packages in order to give a short term solution to those suffering from famine
 - ii. set up water systems such as water pumps in the centers of communities so that the people do not have to travel as far for basic human needs
 - iii. reviewing water systems every 6 months by UNESCO to ensure that they are working safely and are free of any health risks such as disease;
10. Calls for all necessary expenditure of the items below by the local government and international donations according to their agreement, and for willing member nations and NGOs to invest in and/or promote:
 - a) healthcare facilities and services in order to further prevent the spread of deadly disease, understanding the unique diseases of each region and sending the necessary resources to protect from those diseases
 - b) cooperation between the Sub-Saharan states and international organizations such as but not limited to the Red Cross, UNDP (United Nations Development Programme), WHO, etc.
 - c) A call for all volunteers by sending experts to train local medical professionals in Africa so they can adequately respond to medical outbreaks;
11. Strongly endorses MEDCs to fund housing programs for LEDCs to ensure safe and comfortable shelter for everyone, which could eventually help develop tourism in these regions, strengthening infrastructure and employment;
12. Encourages the introduction of the ecological farming, or agroecology, to Sub-Saharan Africa countries in the form included:
 - a) suggesting governments to encourage agroecology by:
 - i. subsidize organic fertilizers instead of chemical fertilizers with financial help from the World Bank, the Rockefeller Foundation or the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), etc...
 - ii. switching the existing agricultural research and progress into supporting ecological farming
 - b) calling upon all farmers to adapt to agroecology by:
 - i. sending 5-10 experts to every area in Sub-Saharan Africa from professional organizations such as Greenpeace and UNDP
 - ii. based on experts exchanging knowledge in the circle of local farmers;
13. Requests funding and collaboration from the African Development Bank and World Bank for the Technologies for African Agricultural transformation aimed at:
 - a) planned investment into agricultural machinery and infrastructure
 - b) funding the up-scaling of crop and grain technologies
 - c) assisting the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA)
 - d) extra investment into the ENABLE Youth Program.