

**FORUM:** General Assembly GA3

**QUESTION OF:** Implementing measures to “green” the world of sport

**SUBMITTED BY:** Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

**CO-SUBMITTERS:** United States of America, European Union, Italy, Denmark, Spain, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, Greenpeace, Brunei, Fiji, Jamaica, Ukraine, Latvia, Bolivia, Mauritania, Rwanda, Congo, Libya, Ireland, Chad, Lesotho, Sudan, Colombia, Ecuador, Republic of Korea, The Russian Federation, New Zealand, South Africa, Kenya, Lao PDR, North Macedonia

GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

*Recognizing* Agenda 21 as the comprehensive plan of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally with regards to sustainable development,

*Abiding by* Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) which provides a framework to create healthy, highly efficient, and cost-saving green buildings,

*Emphasizing* that the concepts of green design and sustainability have evolved as a mechanism to deal with limited resources and reduce the impact on the environment,

*Alarmed* by the fact that building and managing a sport facility and operating an event contributes to air pollution, and waste generation, as well as to ozone-layer depletion, habitat and biodiversity loss, soil erosion and water pollution,

*Defining* a Mega Sporting Event to be any sporting event with more than 100,000 people involved,

*Fully alarmed* by the fact that Mega Sporting Events can generate up to 750,000 plastic bottles apiece,

*Deeply concerned* that a single World Cup soccer match contributes to 5,160 tons of carbon dioxide, with transportation responsible for 5,000 tons,

*Fully believing* in the double benefits, economically and environmentally, of converting all sports teams into 'greener' associations,

1. Calls upon all relevant and interested bodies, especially sports construction firms, for the implementation of current and new technologies on sports facilities, especially stadiums, under construction or renovation to:
  - a) increase energy efficiency by:
    - i. installing top-grade insulation with aluminum facers and water-resistive barriers
    - ii. implementing glazed and low-emission double-pane windows
    - iii. utilizing tankless water heaters
  - b) utilize solar panels on roofs and/or car park canopies in congruence with the weather conditions of its geographical location to:
    - i. power the watering of the greenery that surrounds the stadium
    - ii. use for cooling and/or heating systems
  - c) adopt LED lights, or if the facility already exists, replace previous lights with LED lights
  - d) reduce water consumption at sports arenas by:
    - i. implementing water recycling systems in which recycled water will be used for sports arena toilets
    - ii. implementing dual-flush toilets which allow the choice of whether to use a full flush or a half flush
    - iii. reusing rainwater for irrigation in congruence with the climate of its geographical location
  - e) implement automated control systems such as:
    - i. programmed Start-Stop Systems which allow facility operators to schedule the

- starting and stopping of equipment according to occupancy
- ii. Energy Monitor System which systematically collects data in order to analyze and make improvements to energy consumption;

2. Urges the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to give monetary incentives to sports construction firms undertaking the technologies aligned in Clause 1;
3. Asks the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWFN) to fund a certain percentage of the eco-friendly technologies outlined in Clause 1 so as to support companies in utilizing such technologies over traditional ones;
4. Further calls upon all Member States to encourage the implementation of new technologies outlined in Clause 1 by:
  - a) creating environmental guidelines based on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
  - b) distributing funds, subsidies, or grants to sports construction firms developing and implementing environmentally sustainable technologies outlined in Clause 1
  - c) providing expedited permit reviews for sports construction firms implementing the environmentally friendly technologies outlined in Clause 1;
5. Further urges the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to give incentives to sports construction firms with LEED-certified buildings through:
  - a) subsidized inspection fees
  - b) free counsel and design assistance by professional architects employed by the UNEP
  - c) subsidized training in green building practices;
6. Requests the creation of the International Sports Substitution Fund (ISSF), with potential collaboration with UNEP, which will be open to public donations and be endorsed by governments in order to provide monetary incentives to sports firms which:
  - a) produce sporting apparel, equipment, and gears with recycled materials and/or biodegradable materials such as sustainable cotton
  - b) undertake carbon offset programs through means such as:
    - i. funding clean-energy programs
    - ii. investing in reforestation
    - iii. funding methane capture methods
  - c) eliminate plastic in packaging products through means such as:
    - i. providing recycled paper and cardboard packaging
    - ii. implementing bioplastic produced from renewable biomass sources, such as corn starch
    - iii. introducing additional charge for plastic packaging
  - d) utilize the Environmental Apparel Design Tool software which encourages clothing designers to make greener choices regarding the types of materials and the amount of waste;
7. Suggests Mega Sporting Events implement a sustainable transport program in order to popularize the use of mass transit to and from sporting events through providing a combination ticket whereby match ticket holders are offered a free public transportation ticket for the whole of the matchday;
8. Further suggests the UNEP to provide monetary support to Mega Sporting Events that implement a green protocol to reduce the use of plastic and paper through means such as:
  - a) banning the use of plastic straws
  - b) eliminating complimentary plastic bags in relevant sporting events shops and replacing them with bags made of biodegradable materials
  - c) introducing eco-friendly cups and containers

- d) increasing the use of reusable food and drink packaging at food courts
  - e) installing free water fountains and taps in order to support refilling of reusable bottles, while discouraging the purchase of plastic water bottles
  - f) replacing plastic or paper tickets with electronic tickets
  - g) encouraging paper advertisements for sports games to be replaced with electronic advertisements on social media platforms, televisions, and electronic billboards;
9. Invites scientists working for the UN, or for relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to collect data and report on:
- a) Ecological Footprint analysis of Mega Sporting Events in order to provide valuable insights into the global environmental impacts generated by visitor consumption patterns and thus help policymakers and event organizers in staging sustainable events
  - b) measures of greenhouse gas emissions released by different sporting venues in a campaign to raise awareness with the objective of making civilians more environmentally conscious, as well as to identify future areas of improvement
  - c) possible alternative eco-friendly appliances that could be implemented in sporting venues;
10. Further requests Member States to utilize the international attention of Mega Sporting Events to:
- a) produce advertisements which will be played before, after, and in between matches on the venues' billboards which will encourage fans who are present at the sporting events to reduce, reuse and recycle
  - b) create public service announcements (PSAs) concerning the use of biodegradable materials in Mega Sporting Events communicated through:
    - i. television
    - ii. radio
    - iii. internet platforms;
11. Emphasizes the need to reutilize sporting venues, considering that multiple venues are abandoned after a temporary use in Mega Sporting Events, through means such as:
- a) organizing tournaments on global, national, and local scales through the support of national and local governments
  - b) Member Nations using the sporting venues for different functions if financial and economic sustainability is not sustained through the continuation of hosting matches, through means of:
    - i. hosting numerous concerts
    - ii. providing private functions such as birthday parties, weddings, and anniversaries
    - iii. renovating into non-sporting venues that require large capacities such as cultural museums, prisons, and movie theaters;
12. Encourages sports organizations to utilize athletes as platforms to raise awareness on environmental sustainability and advertise eco-friendly lifestyles by athletes:
- a) participating in campaigns, films or documentaries about the environmental aspect of sports
  - b) employing eco-friendly products in their professional life
  - c) promoting the use of electric vehicles to transport athletes in public events
  - d) using their social media accounts as a means of raising awareness and inspiring people towards an eco-friendly lifestyle.