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Agenda item 23 (a)

**Agriculture development, food security and nutrition:
agriculture development, food security and nutrition**

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 2 May 2024

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/78/L.59)]

78/279. International Year of the Woman Farmer, 2026

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#) of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

Recalling its resolutions [77/181](#) of 14 December 2022 on women in development, [78/168](#) of 19 December 2023 on agriculture development, food security and nutrition and [62/136](#) of 18 December 2007 and [78/181](#) of 19 December 2023 on the improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas,

Recalling also its resolution [72/239](#) of 20 December 2017, by which it proclaimed the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), and the global launch of the Decade in Rome on 29 May 2019, and cognizant of the important contributions that women farmers, particularly small-scale producers, make to bolstering food security at all levels,



Recalling further its resolution 76/253 of 17 March 2022, by which it declared 2026 the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists, to acknowledge that rangelands and pastoralism are currently facing urgent and different challenges around the world and to emphasize that well-developed and fair production pastoral value chains can provide equitable economic opportunities for all and contribute to ending extreme poverty,

Taking note of the 2023 report of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations entitled *The Status of Women in Agrifood Systems*,

Taking note also of the Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security endorsed at the fifty-first session of the Committee, held in Rome from 23 to 27 October and on 25 November 2023,

Taking note with appreciation of the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit, convened by the Secretary-General on 23 and 24 September 2021, as well as its pre-Summit, held from 26 to 28 July 2021 in Rome, and the United Nations Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, convened by the Secretary-General and hosted by the Government of Italy in Rome from 24 to 26 July 2023,

Stressing that progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere), Goal 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture) and Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), have been hampered, in part, owing to recent global shocks and stressors that are compounding gender inequality across agrifood systems,

Acknowledging the important contributions of all women working in agrifood systems throughout value chains, including, inter alia, farmers, producers, peasants, family and smallholder farmers, fishers, fish workers, beekeepers, pastoralists, processors, traders, formal and informal workers, and entrepreneurs, as well as Indigenous women and women in local communities, to achieving food security, improving nutrition and eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty and rural poverty,

Stressing that peasant women and other rural women play a significant role in the economic survival of their families and in contributing to the rural and national economy, including through their work in the non-monetized sectors of the economy, but are often denied tenure and ownership of land, equal access to land, productive resources, financial services, information, employment or social protection, and are often victims of violence and discrimination in a variety of forms and manifestations,

Noting with concern that women farmers' access to, ownership of and control over productive resources, assets, inputs and services, including land, training and capacity-building, credit and technology, varies greatly across and within countries and regions, and reaffirming that addressing these concerns has the potential to bolster food security and nutrition at the local, national and global levels and stimulate economic growth,

Stressing the importance of promoting rural women's economic empowerment by realizing their right to work and rights at work, building their capacities and skills to manage enterprises and cooperatives, facilitating formalization and ensuring their financial and digital inclusion and equal access to natural resources and economic and productive resources, including access to, use of, ownership of and control over land, including diverse types of land tenure, property and appropriate new technology, as well as inheritance rights, developing specific assistance programmes and advisory services to promote economic skills of rural women in banking, modern trading and financial procedures, including financial literacy and consumer protection, and

providing affordable microcredit and other financial and business services to a greater number of women in rural areas, in particular female heads of households, for their economic empowerment,

Recognizing the need to empower all women and girls through inclusive and equitable quality education and training to promote on-farm activities that improve sustainable production and build resilience,

Recognizing also that supporting women farmers is critical to accelerating the transition to more sustainable agrifood systems through productivity growth that optimizes agricultural sustainability across social, economic and environmental dimensions,

Recognizing further that the observance of an International Year of the Woman Farmer in 2026 by the international community would contribute significantly to raising awareness of these issues,

1. *Decides* to declare 2026 the International Year of the Woman Farmer;
2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and academia, to observe the International Year, as appropriate, through activities aimed at raising awareness of and directing policy attention to the barriers and challenges that women farmers face across agrifood systems, as well as the initiatives, policies and actions that can and are being taken to address these issues and achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women in agriculture;
3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in collaboration with the other United Nations Rome-based agencies, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#), to facilitate the implementation of the present resolution and observe the International Year;
4. *Also invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, mindful of the provisions of paragraphs 23 to 27 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#), to inform the General Assembly at its eighty-second session regarding the implementation of the present resolution, including an evaluation of the observance of the International Year;
5. *Stresses* that the costs of all the activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met through voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;
6. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to contribute to and support the implementation of the present resolution;
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and academia, for appropriate observance.

*77th plenary meeting
2 May 2024*