



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

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COUNCIL

Hundred and Seventy-fourth Session

Rome, 4-8 December 2023

Letter and proposal from the Republic of Belarus on Item 6

1. On 6 December 2023 a letter was received from the Republic of Belarus, Member of the Council, containing a draft decision of the Council under item 6.
2. The letter and draft decision are attached.

Mr. Director-General,

Mr. Independent Chair of Council,

Having thoroughly considered the draft decision contained in the document CL/174/INF/13 and in order to reach a broad consensus on this issue, the Republic of Belarus had the intention to propose the amendments to this draft decision. But after difficult discussions about the FAO Rules of Procedure and many precedents at the 169th and 171st sessions of the FAO Council as well as at the current session on items 4 and 5, the Republic of Belarus decided to present its own draft decision on item 6 of the provisional agenda of the 174th session of the Council, entitled "Impact of the war in Ukraine on global food security and related matters under the mandate of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations" (FAO).

We kept all the text from the document CL174/INF/13, adding several amendments which, in our view, will make the draft decision more balanced and will underline the necessity to ensure agricultural production and exports of food and foodstuffs from Ukraine as well as Russia to the global markets during the food crisis, especially in the interest of developing and least developed countries.

This proposal is submitted for decision by the Council in the manner foreseen under Rule XII of the General Rules of the Organization and Rule IV of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of FAO.

We thank you for circulating this proposal to all FAO Members and referencing it as an official document of the 174th session.

Sincerely,

Kyryl Piatrouski

Acting Permanent Representative

of the Republic of Belarus to FAO

- a) recalled its decisions and recommendations of its 169th, 170th, 171st and 172nd sessions, as well as the report of the 43rd session of the FAO Conference, and stressed the need to continue their full implementation;
- b) deplored the unilateral termination of the Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian Ports, know as the “Black Sea Initiative”, by the Russian Federation on 18 July 2023, stressing the benefits that this Initiatives has brought along for food security by enabling the safe transportation of nearly 33 million metric tons of grain and other foodstuffs from Ukraine to 45 countries across three continents, mainly to developed countries;
- c) reiterated its call for the immediate cessation of attacks on Ukraine’s and Russia’s critical agriculture and energy infrastructure, noting in particular the systematic attacks on ports and power plants that followed the termination of the Black Sea Initiative;
- d) stressed again the need to allow for the full resumption of Ukrainian agricultural production as well as grain, foodstuffs and fertilizers/inputs from the Russian Federation and their unimpeded export from Ukraine and the Russian Federation, including via the Black Sea, in order to meet the demand in developing and least developed countries, particularly those in Africa;
- e) welcomed the “Grain from Ukraine” humanitarian initiative carried out in partnership with the World Food Programme, under which more than 170 000 tons of Ukrainian grain have already been delivered to Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Yemen;
- f) welcome the humanitarian efforts carried out by the Russian Federation, including but not limited to within the World Food Programme, under which 300 000 tons of grain free of charge are being delivered to Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, Mali, Somali, Central African Republic, Eritrea, and 300 000 tons of fertilizers were granted and have already been delivered to Malawi, Kenya and others.
- g) recalled its decision to remain seized of this matter.