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Agenda item 14

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2019

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/74/L.37](#) and [A/74/L.37/Add.1](#))]

74/244. International Year of Fruits and Vegetables, 2021

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, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Considering the urgent need to raise awareness of the nutritional and health benefits of fruit and vegetable consumption and to advocate for healthy diets through increased sustainable production and consumption of fruits and vegetables,

Recalling the Rome Declaration on Nutrition, as well as the Framework for Action, which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by



Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, which was jointly organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization, in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014,¹

Recalling also its resolution [70/259](#) of 1 April 2016, by which it proclaimed the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), as well as its resolution [72/306](#) of 24 July 2018 on the implementation of the Decade, and the need to promote sustainable food systems that foster diversified, balanced and healthy diets that include a variety of foods and consumption of an abundance of fruits and vegetables,

Recalling further its resolution [73/165](#) of 17 December 2018, entitled “United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas”,

Recognizing that the agriculture sector is inextricably linked with the entire food system and that agricultural technologies and digitalization can add value throughout the food system by improving the sustainability of storage, transport, trade, processing, transformation, retail, waste reduction and recycling, as well as interactions among these processes,

Recalling 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 of fruits and vegetables, particularly indigenous crops, to food security, nutrition, livelihoods and incomes of family farmers, especially small-scale family farmers,

Calling upon Member States to take effective measures, as appropriate, to help to integrate smallholders into global production, value and supply chains for the sustainable production and consumption of fruits and vegetables,

Taking note of the Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health, adopted in 2004 by the World Health Assembly of the World Health Organization,²

Concerned about the high levels of loss and waste in the fruit and vegetable supply/value chains and the negative economic, environmental and social impacts of such loss and waste, and in this regard inviting Member States and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen the capacity-building of developing countries to adopt innovative approaches and technology in combating loss and waste of fruits and vegetables,

Recognizing that the observance of an International Year of Fruits and Vegetables in 2021 by the international community would contribute significantly to raising awareness on these issues,

1. *Decides* to declare 2021 the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables;
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 and academia, to observe the International Year, as appropriate, through activities aimed at raising awareness of and directing policy attention to the nutritional and health benefits of fruit and vegetable consumption, the contribution of fruit and vegetable consumption to the promotion of diversified, balanced and healthy diets and lifestyles, reducing loss and waste of fruits and vegetables and sharing best practices in this regard;

¹ World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annexes I and II.

² World Health Organization, document WHA57/2004/REC/1, resolution 57.17, annex.

3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#), to facilitate the implementation of 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 seventy-eighth session regarding the implementation of the present resolution, including an evaluation 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 International Year;
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.

52nd plenary meeting
19 December 2019
