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NOTE FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF GUATEMALA, SUBMITTING THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ENTITLED “THE CHALLENGES TO FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY IN THE AMERICAS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, UNDER THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PLAN OF ACTION OF GUATEMALA 2019” FOR REFERRAL
TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS FIFTIETH REGULAR SESSION

***PERMANENT MISSION OF GUATEMALA***

***TO THE***

***ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES***

Ref. NV-OEA-M4-No.629-2020

The Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the Organization of American States (OAS) presents its compliments to the Chair of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) and has the honor to submit herewith the draft resolution: “The Challenges to Food and Nutrition Security in the Americas in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic, under the Framework of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019,” which, should the member states so agree, is to be referred to the fiftieth regular session of the OAS General Assembly scheduled for October 20 to 21, 2020.

In that regard, we should like to note that the accompanying version of the draft resolution is the product of informal negotiations that were held until this Thursday, August 13, 2020. Said negotiations will continue with a view to coming up with a consensus text as soon as possible, for referral to the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) for consideration.

The Permanent Mission of Guatemala is pleased to inform the Chair of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development that it has requested that the topic “The Challenges to Food and Nutrition Security in the Americas in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic, under the Framework of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019” be included on the agenda for the fiftieth regular session of the General Assembly and, accordingly, the topic is included on the preliminary draft agenda, document AG/CP/doc.966/20 rev. 3, dated August 14, 2020.

The Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the Organization of American States avails itself of the opportunity to convey to the Chair of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

Washington, D.C., August 19, 2020

To the Chair of the

Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI)

Washington, D.C.

ANNEX

**DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE FIFTIETH REGULAR SESSION OF THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

THE CHALLENGES TO FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE AMERICAS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC UNDER THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PLAN OF ACTION OF GUATEMALA 2019

(PRESENTED BY GUATEMALA)

1. EXPRESSING solidarity [CARICOM: with] and condolences [CARICOM: to  ~~all of]~~ the people of the Americas who have suffered the [CARICOM: adverse consequences ~~devastation]~~ of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially those who have contracted the disease, [CARICOM: those] whose livelihood the crisis has affected, [CARICOM: as well as those who have suffered the loss of family members ~~and the families of those who have passed away because of it1~~][[1]](#footnote-1)/.
2. EXPRESSING AS WELL the [CARICOM: ~~deepest highest] [ a~~ debt of ]gratitude and [CARICOM: ~~indebtedness ] [~~US, CR, PER, AR support] for the dedication, the efforts and the sacrifices, beyond the call of duty, of health professionals, sanitation professionals and other front-line workers, [CARICOM: for their ~~in the~~] response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
3. DEEPLY CONCERNED [CARICOM: about ~~by~~] the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, [CARICOM: ~~all of~~ in] the countries of the Americas, [CARICOM: including increases of ~~which has~~] [US: ~~caused grave repercussions on the increased of~~] inequality, poverty, extreme poverty, malnutrition and hunger [CARICOM: ~~in the region,~~ particularly among the most vulnerable] while also threatening the food security and nutrition of our [CARICOM: countries. ~~populations, particularly those in situations of vulnerability]~~
4. CONSIDERING that the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC),[[2]](#footnote-2)/ estimates that [CARICOM: even larger numbers of ~~more~~] people in the region will fall into poverty, that the number of those affected by COVID-19 will increase and that the number of those in extreme poverty could rise, potentially reversing the advances made in the last decade in terms of economic growth [CAN: and sustainable development], in the fight against food insecurity and inequality, in access to education and health, among others. [CARICOM: Also, aware that, ~~A~~according] to the Global Report on Food Crises 2020[[3]](#footnote-3)/, [CARICOM: ~~it has been identified that]~~ the number of people in acute food insecurity or in food crises could double because of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. RECOGNIZING that the region has been characterized as the most unequal in the world, where the incidence of poverty and extreme poverty is higher among [CAN: women, older persons, youth and children, as well as all persons in vulnerable situations and marginalized communities] [ CR, VZ, CARICOM, UY, SAL people living in rural [GT: areas and marginal urban areas], girls and boys, adolescents, women, [US: older persons ~~senior citizens~~], persons with disabilities, Indigenous peoples and communities, Afro-descendants, migrants, displaced persons, and refugees, among others;] and that the situation of vulnerability is exacerbated as a result of COVID-19 and its multidimensional and unprecedented effects, including the serious disruption of societies, economies, the labor market, global commerce, [US: education], and its devastating impact on people’s livelihoods and [US: wellbeing.]
6. [JM: DEEPLY CONCERNED that although rural women account for more than half of the region’s food production and play an important role in ensuring food security [GT: and nutrition], they continue to live under conditions of social and economic inequality with challenges in access to land titles, credit and technical assistance].

6 BIS [CAN: DEEPLY CONCERNED that the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the social and economic situation of women and girls and their access to essential services is deepening already existing inequalities and risks reversing the progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in recent decades,]

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the commitments[[4]](#footnote-4)/ made by Member States in international and inter-American instruments[[5]](#footnote-5)/ of which they are a part of, aimed at eradicating hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition, the eradication of poverty, reduction of inequality and expanding the social protection of people,[~~CARICOM: including through:]~~ [CH: like ~~the ratification and/or adoption of~~] the Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the Area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Protocol of San Salvador)[[6]](#footnote-6)/ and the Social Charter of the Americas and its Plan of Action[[7]](#footnote-7)/ and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of the United Nations.[[8]](#footnote-8)/

7 BIS [ARG, PER: TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALSO, the mechanisms and other instances existing in the Inter-American System, such as the Rapporteurship on Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the "The Working Group for the analysis of the national reports provided in the Protocol of San Salvador, through which the preparation of progress indicators, reports and other activities provide tools to the States on the path to food security and nutrition’’.]

1. RECALLING the commitments emanating from the mandates of the Summits of the Americas, aimed at strengthening the agri-food sector in a sustainable, comprehensive, inclusive, and competitive manner that contributes to achieving food security and nutrition, fighting malnutrition, and in particular chronic malnutrition, and promoting science-based nutritional policies that are culturally appropriate for our peoples.
2. [US, BR: Reaffirming support for international technical cooperation on agriculture through IICA, as well as our determination to complement our capacity building, innovation, inclusion and sustainability efforts, in the agriculture and food sector across the hemisphere.]
3. REITERATING the importance of [US: ~~family~~ all types of farming [EC: for economic development] especially [CARICOM: small and medium size family farming, school farming, subsistence farming [GT: and fishing], and farming by ]women and youth in rural areas, [SAL: in particular those most affected like the Central American Dry Corridor, among others], in developing countries to [US: achieve ~~guarantee~~] food security and nutrition, reduce poverty, and confront the [CARICOM: effects of the] pandemic.

10 alt. [BR: REITERATING the importance of family farming, especially women and youth in rural areas, in developing countries to guarantee food security and nutrition, reduce poverty, and confront the pandemic].

1. [CARICOM: ACKNOWLEDGING that the geographical location and climatic conditions of some countries,[CARICOM: including susceptibility to natural disasters, limited areas of arable land and poor natural water supply militate against any significant increase in agricultural production and the achievement of food security [GT: and nutrition], [CARICOM: particularly in small island and low-lying coastal developing states, unless they introduce new climate smart agricultural technology with capacity building support for which they would require access to adequate and predictable concessional financing from international financial and development institutions.]
2. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the urgent need to accelerate action at all levels and from all interested parties [US: with the ultimate aim to achieve] the vision and the goals of the 2030 Agenda, especially the 2nd Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 2) “End hunger, achieve food security [US: and improved nutrition] and promote sustainable agriculture”[[9]](#footnote-9)/, which considers that hunger and malnutrition represent major obstacles to sustainable development and that governments [US: can design] [NIC: design] public policies to consolidate measures, strategies, and policies to eliminate hunger and all forms of malnutrition and to achieve food security [SAL: and nutrition] as a priority, and fulfil the commitment of not leaving anyone behind and to reach those who are furthest behind.
3. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT AS WELL that[CARICOM: , although the world is ~~we are~~ ]in the second half of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025)[[10]](#footnote-10)/ [CARICOM: ~~and considering the challenges that]~~ countries still face [CARICOM: tough challenges to achieve food security and nutrition, [~~SAL: given the impact on the availability and access to food as an effect~~ [BR: especially] in the context of the effects] of the pandemic].
4. FURTHER RECOGNIZING that, in the [CARICOM: context of the] COVID-19 [CARICOM pandemic, ~~the]~~ measures of social protection are [CARICOM: ~~instrumental~~ vital] to confront the double challenge of mitigating the immediate economic impact of the pandemic and rebuilding the livelihoods of populations [CARICOM: especially the most ~~in~~ vulnerable ~~situations~~]. [CARICOM: and that implementing policies that favor the use and ~~Likewise, the adoption of measures that favor the use and~~ optimization of food through, among others, public-private partnerships, could bring relief to a large number of people whose food security and nutrition is at risk ~~because of the current crisis.~~]
5. [JM: RECALLING ~~REMEMBERING]~~ that in the Inter-American Declaration of Social Development Priorities[[11]](#footnote-11)/ and in the roadmap that constitutes the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019[[12]](#footnote-12)/ the Minister and High Level Authorities of Social Development (REMDES), recognized the value of social protection programs in the eradication of child hunger and malnutrition in the Americas and the pledge to continue supporting these efforts through inter-American cooperation and institutional strengthening of the government agencies, ~~and~~ [US: civil society organizations][NIC: and other social actors], responsible for the implementation of these programs.
6. CONSIDERING the recent regional and sub-regional initiatives[[13]](#footnote-13)/, that address the problems of food security and nutrition, inclusive development and those related to attention to the COVID-19 pandemic, for the strengthening of the resilience of food security and nutrition through social protection mechanisms; the uninterrupted operation of the value chain, production and access to food by the population [CH: through transparent international trade and without arbitrary restrictions]; and the promotion of sustainable [CAN: agriculture and] food systems within the region that meets the needs of the population, protects the environment, respects the food habits and cultures of the hemisphere.
7. RECOGNIZING the work on food safety, by Member States, based on scientific evidence, to [US, GT: protect and] preserve the health of all people throughout the supply and consumption chain of agricultural products. CAN: Moreover, it is imperative to recognize the essential service of workers in agriculture and food supply chains, and support them to continue their essential work in a safe manner].
8. [RECALLING ~~REMEMBERING~~] that the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), in its session of November 26, 2019, on “Child Malnutrition in the Americas”, had presentations on public policies, programs, and initiatives, in reducing malnutrition, particularly chronic malnutrition in different contexts of the region, discussing the main challenges confronted by countries and institutions, identifying the lines of regional cooperation and in-between countries, to facilitate the transmission of knowledge, lessons learned and best practices, as well as successful policies.[[14]](#footnote-14)/
9. RECOGNIZING the efforts to date that the Member States have made to face the emergency generated by COVID-19 and [CARICOM: to] meet the most pressing needs of food security and nutrition of populations in vulnerable situations; and convinced that the COVID-19 pandemic [CARICOM: ~~is an opportunity for the~~ requires] [GT: provides] Member States ~~to work with~~ ]civil society, the private sector, academia, and other relevant social actors [GT: the opportunity] [CARICOM: to collaborate in ~~to explore~~, reviewing, rethinking, redesigning, strengthening and promoting evidence-based socio-economic ~~evidence-based~~] policies, plans, and programs of assistance and social protection, in the eradication of hunger and chronic malnutrition [CARICOM: to better prepare our societies to ~~in order to make changes that allow our societies to be better prepared to]~~ deal with future crises and achieve the objectives set in the global agenda].
10. [AR, MX. NIC. SV: RECOGNIZING the important work of the [US: ~~WHO~~ PAHO]/FAO, who [US: issued ~~have developed~~] guidelines [CARICOM: which ~~that~~] recognize that, to date, [US: there is no evidence ~~it has not been demonstrated]~~ that the COVID-19 virus can be transmitted through food or food containers [US: or packaging].
11. [CARICOM: RECOGNIZING that, in many OAS member states, particularly in Central America and the Caribbean, even before the COVID-19 pandemic, agricultural production was already adversely affected by global warming, reducing food security [GT: and nutrition], increasing unemployment and poverty, creating refugees and displaced people; and that COVID-19 has worsened their conditions].
12. [NIC: Taking into account the importance of micro, small and medium-sized businesses (MSMEs) in food security [GT: and nutrition] and economic development that, according to multilateral organizations, represent more than half of the formal jobs in the world.]

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

1. To request the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE) to promote, in [CARICOM: collaboration with the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI)], [GT: ~~in coordination~~ ~~with~~ making use of] the Inter-American Social Protection Network -IASPN- [[15]](#footnote-15)/ to strengthen national institutions [GT: of social development, in collaboration with international organizations, [CARICOM: experts in growth, development and prosperity,] [US: civil society, private sector][GT: and academia]responsible for combating poverty, reduction of inequality with integral focus, expanding ~~the~~ social protection [US: ~~as well as~~ and] promoting social programs to eradicate hunger~~,~~ [US: and] malnutrition, in the fight against food insecurity, through actions aimed at dialogue, [SAL: capacity building] and the exchange of knowledge and lessons learned, as well as the technical assistance and monitoring of indicators related to these issues.
2. To encourage Member States to actively participate in the 3 Working Groups[[16]](#footnote-16)/ included in the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019 and in the activities organized by the Secretariat for Access to Right and Equity for the implementation of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019, [VZ: prioritizing on the agenda of the Working Groups the issues of food security [GT: and nutrition], [CARICOM: health and the reduction of ~~end of~~ ] poverty and inequality, [CARICOM: ~~health]~~ [EC: protection of the income of the most vulnerable groups], among others.
3. BIS [CH: Encourage Member States to keep value chains open and connected so that international markets can continue to function, supporting the flow of agricultural products and inputs, [EC: especially to retail outlets and small-scale producers], which play a key role in avoiding food shortages and thus achieving global food security and nutrition, as well as that the emergency measures related to agriculture and agri-food products designed to confront COVID-19 are specific, proportionate, transparent and temporary, and do not create unnecessary barriers to trade or interrupt supply chains for agriculture and agri-food products][CAN: We commit to limit any unjustified restrictive measures that could lead to excessive food price volatility in international and local markets]
4. To invite Member States, Permanent Observers, and other donors to contribute to the “Fund for the implementation of the Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019”, to the extent of their [CARICOM: capacities ~~possibilities~~], with the aim of securing resources in the shortest term, to finance cooperation and technical assistance for activities in support of [CARICOM: the efforts of] Member States, [CARICOM: ~~in order to attend and~~] to respond to the serious consequences of hunger and malnutrition in the Americas, now aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. [CARICOM: To request the General Secretariat to support the efforts of small island [SUR: and low-lying coastal developing] states to obtain concessional financing from International Financial Institutions and Development Agencies for climate smart agricultural technology and capacity building support, given their limited areas of arable land, poor water supply and the importance to creating food security and nutrition of small and medium size family farming, school farming, subsistence farming, and farming by women and youth in rural areas.]
6. To request the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE) [CARICOM: ~~that~~], in coordination with the Inter-American Committee on Social Development (CIDES), [GT: and in ~~coordination~~ collaboration] with the [CARICOM: Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI)] [GT: and other relevant Secretariats], [CARICOM: to] implement this resolution with the [CARICOM: purpose ~~end goal~~] of facilitating and strengthening dialogue, cooperation, and the exchange of experiences [SAL: capacity building] and technical assistance that benefit Member States. [EC: ~~On the issues presented in the resolution,~~ in the unprecedented context, of the COVID-19 pandemic]
7. To encourage the General Secretariat, through the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE) and, in GT: collaboration ~~coordination~~ with the [CARICOM: Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI),] [GT: and other relevant Secretariats, and in coordination with the] Joint Summit Working Group[[17]](#footnote-17)/, [CARICOM: the Caribbean Agricultural Research & Development Institute (CARDI),] United Nations World Food Program (WFP) and with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), among others, to develop and strengthen cooperation projects [CARICOM: to address the effects ~~in the context~~] of the COVID-19 pandemic on the issues [CARICOM: in ~~of~~] this resolution.
8. Request that the General Secretariat, through SARE, [CARICOM: and in collaboration with SEDI][GT: and other relevant Secretariats], prepare [EC: and present] [GT: in a joint session of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development ~~(~~CIDI) and [ CARICOM: the Permanent Council] a [EC: follow-up ~~and evaluation~~] report  ~~to compile~~ on [US: ~~good~~ best] practices and lessons [CARICOM: learnet~~d~~ ] by the Member States, as well as to recommend lines of action in the scope of this resolution.

CIDRP02944E04

1. . CP/RES. 1151 (2280/20) OAS response to the COVID-19 pandemic, approved by the CP at the virtual extraordinary session held on 16 April 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. . News from the United Nations Organization (April 2020). Available at: <https://news.un.org/es/story/2020/04/1473162>

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) estimates that in the region an estimated 35 million more people will fall into poverty and that the number of those affected will increase to more than 220 million and that the people living in the extreme poverty could reach 90 million inhabitants in the Americas. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. . Global Report on Food Crises (2020). Available at:

<https://www.wfp.org/publications/2020-global-report-food-crises>

According to the Global Report on Food Crises 2020, 18.5 million people [US: across eight countries in the region were ~~have been]~~ identified in acute food insecurity or in food crises [US: in 2019.] [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. . Each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, and the importance of the role of national development policies and strategies will never be stressed enough. OP9 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. . See article 11 of the International Covenant, article 12 of the Protocol of San Salvador and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. . Protocol of San Salvador. Ratified by 16 OAS member states. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. . “Social Charter of the Americas (AG/doc.5242/12 rev. 1)”. Available at:

<https://www.oas.org/es/centro_noticias/comunicado_prensa.asp?sCodigo=C206/12#:~:text=La%20Carta%20Social%20parte%20del,gobiernos%20la%20responsabilidad%20de%20promoverla> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. . 31 OAS member states have ratified and/or adopted this international instrument. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. . United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Available at:

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/en/hunger/>. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. . Resolution 70/259, approved by the United Nations General Assembly on April 1, 2016 [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. . Inter-American Declaration of Priorities in the Field of Social Development: “Overcoming Poverty Multidimensional and Bridging Social Equity Gaps: Towards an Inter-American Agenda on Social Development ”. (CIDI / REMDES / DEC.1 / 19). [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. . Plan of Action of Guatemala 2019, Overcoming Multidimensional Poverty and Bridging Social Equity Gaps: Towards an Inter-American Agenda on Social Development” (CIDI / REMDES / doc.6 / 19 rev.3). [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. . The Declaration of the Ministers and Secretaries of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Food and Rural Development of 26 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, of April 2020; [CH: The Declaration of the Ministers and Secretaries of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Food and Rural Development of the Americas, of July 2020]; the CARICOM COVID-19 Agri-Food Security Action Plan, the Open Letter from the Parliamentary Front against hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean, April 2020; the Regional Contingency Plan to combat the coronavirus pandemic, COVID-19, of the Heads of State and Government of the Central American Integration System (SICA), of March 2020; the El Salvador-Guatemala-Honduras-Mexico Comprehensive Development Plan; Progresan- SICA: information systems programs for resilience in Food and Nutrition Security. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. . Concept Note of the session of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development "Child Malnutrition in the Region" (CIDI/INF.333/19). Available at:

http://www.oas.org/es/cidi/cidi\_documentos\_INF\_19.asp. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. . IASPN is the Hemispheric mechanism for peer cooperation in social development coordinated by the Department of Social Inclusion of the Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity (SARE). [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. . Working Groups: 1) Measurements of multidimensional poverty and the design of public policies focused on guaranteeing well-being and enjoying a good quality of life; 2) Social protection systems that lead to social development, through the reduction of poverty and inequality, and extend social protection with a comprehensive approach; and 3) Alliances, financing and strengthening of hemispheric cooperation and technical assistance to promote social development. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. . [US: The Organization of American States (OAS); Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); The Economic Commission For Latin America And The Caribbean (ECLAC); Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); Inter-American Institute For Cooperation On Agriculture (IICA);Central American Bank For Economic Integration (CABEI); Development Bank Of Latin America (CAF); Caribbean Development Bank (CDB); The World Bank (WB); International Organization For Migration (IOM); International Labour Organization (ILO); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Organisation For Economic Co-Operation And Development (OECD). [↑](#footnote-ref-17)