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Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2019

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/74/386)]

74/241. International Tea Day

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, particularly 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,

Recalling resolution 12/2019 of 28 June 2019, adopted by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its forty-first session,¹

Recognizing the importance of promoting sustainable development in its three dimensions in an innovative, coordinated, environmentally sound, open and shared manner and the urgent need to raise public awareness of the importance of tea for

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2019/REP, appendix I.



rural development and sustainable livelihoods and to improve the tea value chain to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting that tea production and processing constitutes a main source of livelihoods for millions of families in developing countries,

Noting also that tea constitutes the main means of subsistence for millions of poor families who live in a number of least developed countries,

Noting further that tea production and processing contributes to the fight against hunger, the reduction of extreme poverty, the empowerment of women and the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems,

Recognizing that the tea industry is a main source of income and export revenues for some of the poorest countries and, as a labour-intensive sector, provides jobs, especially in remote and economically disadvantaged areas,

Affirming that tea can play a significant role in rural development, poverty reduction and food security in developing countries, being one of the most important cash crops,

Noting that tea consumption can bring health benefits and wellness, and noting also the important role of tea education and its cultural significance,

Re-emphasizing the call from the Intergovernmental Group on Tea to direct greater efforts towards expanding demand, particularly in tea-producing countries where per capita consumption is relatively low, and supporting efforts to address the declining per capita consumption in traditional importing countries,

Trusting that the observance of an International Tea Day will promote and foster collective actions to implement activities in favour of the sustainable production and consumption of tea and raise awareness of its importance in fighting hunger and poverty,

1. *Decides* to designate 21 May as International Tea Day;
2. *Invites* all States Members and observers of the United Nations, 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 International Tea Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, through education and activities aimed at raising public awareness of the importance of tea for, inter alia, rural development and sustainable livelihoods;
3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the observance of International Tea Day, in collaboration with other relevant organizations, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67;
4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States Members and observers of the United Nations, 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
19th December 2019*