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Agenda item 15

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 29 March 2022

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/76/L.42](#) and [A/76/L.42/Add.1](#))]

76/256. International Day of Plant Health

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 year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Recalling resolution 6/2021 of 18 June 2021, adopted by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its forty-second session,¹

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2021/REP, appendix E.



Recognizing the success of the International Year of Plant Health, 2020, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution [73/252](#) of 20 December 2018, which raised global awareness of the role of plant health in reducing hunger and poverty, protecting the environment and boosting economic development,

Recalling the endorsement by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, at its twelfth session, of the proclamation of an International Day of Plant Health as one of the key legacies of the International Year of Plant Health, as also endorsed by the International Steering Committee of the International Year at its second meeting and the Bureau of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures at its meeting of December 2019,

Noting that healthy plants constitute the foundation for all life on Earth, as well as ecosystem functions, food security and nutrition, which are key to sustaining life on Earth,

Recognizing that plant health is key to the sustainable development of agriculture to feed the growing global population by 2050,

Recognizing also that sustaining plant health protects the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests, addresses the effects of climate change, and supports efforts to end hunger, malnutrition and poverty and boosts economic development, and that the protection of plant health from pests is a key factor in strategies to eliminate hunger and rural poverty,

Stressing the urgent need to raise awareness of and to promote and facilitate actions towards the management of plant health in order to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Trusting that the observance of an international day will encourage actions to promote and implement activities in favour of preserving and sustaining global plant resources and raise awareness of the importance of plant health in addressing issues of global concern, including hunger, poverty and threats to the environment,

Recognizing that the observance of an International Day of Plant Health on 12 May every year by the international community will contribute significantly to raising awareness of these issues, while building on the momentum gained through the International Year of Plant Health,

1. *Decides* to designate 12 May as the International Day of Plant Health;
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, as well as schools, to observe the International Day, as appropriate, through activities aimed at raising awareness of the importance of plant health and its economic, social and environmental impact on food security and nutrition and ecosystem functions, and to share best practices in this regard;
3. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in collaboration with the International Plant Protection Convention, to facilitate the observance of the International Day, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#);
4. *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;
5. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to contribute to and support the International Day;

6. *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.

*63rd plenary meeting
29 March 2022*
