

Brazil

Cuba

Egypt

Iran

Committee: The General Assembly

Sponsors: Brazil, Cuba, Egypt, Iran

Subject: Droughts and their associated increased fire risk

The General Assembly,

Noting that since 2016, 28 million hectares of forest have been cut down every year on average.

Affirming that the burning of the Amazon RainForest has had a major lethal impact on the rest of Latin America, and the global climate as well,

Understanding that 20% of the world's population is dependent on forests to make a living,

Recognizing that both long term and short term plans are needed to more effectively address the issue,

Bearing in mind that droughts can cause problems for agriculture and problems in agriculture can lead to droughts,

Emphasizing the importance of providing energy sources to Indigenous peoples and the role that the Amazon Conservation Team has had in providing them with solar energy alternatives,

Having considered the effects of climate change on increasing droughts even if addressing it is not the priority of this committee,

Cognisant that water management is a contributing factor to droughts and that proper management can reduce the risk of droughts,

Acknowledging that decreasing deforestation will help improve the water cycle, therefore assists in the prevention of droughts,

1. Incentivizes companies to reduce deforestation actions by promoting and funding them,
 - a. Provides incentives for conservation, such as payments for environmental services, subsidies, credit, and technical assistance,
 - b. Promotes companies/businesses that are committed to reducing deforestation by advertising these companies so that they can get more consumers,
 - c. Moves citizens away from the need to cut down trees to make a living,
 - i. Following the example of Madagascar, sign with NGOs like Conservation International that will help generate new ways to find local communities a sustainable way of living,
 - d. Enhances Brazil's plan of making cattle farming more intensive so as to move away from the demand of clearing forest areas,
 - e. Works with the NICFI to transform China's commodity markets to reduce deforestation and conversion, which in turn helps China's climate situation.

- f. Has different groups like the ACT to provide solar energy alternatives for indigenous groups to not cut down trees for energy;
- 2. Classifies land to determine what uses exactly are permitted and who can hold what rights where,
 - a. Governments of participating nation states determine areas of land that are to be strictly protected from forest mining,
 - b. Permits are to be authorized to citizens or corporations that wish to cut down trees in certain areas,
 - c. Special committee (SFPA Specialized Forest Permission Administration) created by the UNEP that's sole purpose is to authorize permits to companies and individuals. This ensures that permits are only authorized to those with ethical intentions of cutting down forest land in minimal measures;
- 3. Recognizes the importance of water management by utilizing,
 - a. Drip Irrigation, where there is minimal and equal distribution of water through agriculture by placing water directly in the root zone,
 - i. According to University of Rhode Island, sprinkler systems are only 60-75% efficient while drip irrigation is 90% efficient and reduces and limits runoff and evaporation,
 - b. Desalination of Water plants,
 - i. Each plant that desalinates 2.5 million gallons of water per day costs roughly 32 million dollars,
 - ii. A plant in Texas that desalinates 100 gallons of water per day cost roughly 658 million dollars,
 - 1. Ex. Cuba's two plants have combated its droughts rapidly and effectively,
 - c. Solar water Pumping stations,
 - i. cost approximately \$2000 dollars per pump;
- 4. Considers the important role that technology plays in combating droughts,
 - a. Utilizes satellite remote sensing to address droughts and areas at risk,
 - i. Looking at precipitation and soil moisture levels and monitoring them,
 - Make that data public through the media,
 - ii. Information on water storage depletion,
 - Useful in more landlocked countries,
 - b. Increases communication between citizens especially farmers and scientists,
 - i. Ensures that the preventative measures are more known and accessible,
 - c. Scientists/environmentalists and government officials are communicating so there's less of a disconnect;
- 5. Recommends reforming agriculture as a preventative measure by using,
 - a. Conservation tillage, which is the process of plowing over the crops, but leaving 30 percent of the vegetation on the surface,

- i. helps increase water absorption and reduce the amount of water that evaporates,
 - b. Using cover crops, not only helps prevent weeds and increases soil fertility, but it also allows easy penetration of water into the soil,
 - i. A survey given to 750 farmers in 2012 led by the North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education found that fields that utilized cover crops were 11-14% more productive in times of drought,
 - c. Rotational grazing, which is a process in which farmers rotate their livestock to various zones, which promotes the regrowth of pastures,
 - i. This technique decreases water runoff and increases water absorption in the fields, which allows the pastures to become drought tolerant,
 - d. The use of compost improves the structure of soil used in crops and fields,
 - i. Placing mulch on top of soil conserves the moisture,
 - e. Farmers who use organic fields produce more crops than those that don't use organic fields,
 - i. Planting drought tolerant grasses or shrubs,
 - ii. In a 30 year trial, the Rodale Institute discovered that farmers with corn that was grown in an organic field had 30% greater yield than nonorganic fields,
 - f. Rain barrels are used by farmers to collect rainwater that can be used in times of drought,
 - g. By scheduling irrigation, farmers are able to decide when and how much water to use when watering the crops,
 - i. Farmers base their watering patterns on the weather forecast and water at night to reduce the amount of water that evaporates,
 - h. Using nitrogen fertilizers to reduce nitrification;
- 6. Accepts that response to emergency situations is necessary in situations that can't be prevented by looking at country by country basis,
 - a. Specific committees provided to nations that have experienced the worst aftermath of forest fires and droughts,
 - i. Funded by NGOS such as:
 - 1. Soil and Water conservation districts,
 - 2. Direct Relief, which provides relief to countries after wildfires;
- 7. Calls upon getting funding from,
 - a. The Gates Foundation, where toilets and entire systems that filter water were installed in third world countries and countries without access to a large source of water,
 - b. Splash nonprofit organization built for cleaning and purification of water for children,

- c. Reallocation of funds from nations like the Netherlands and Germany that provide a lot of the funding for the UNEP in the first place,
- d. Calls upon the NGO, Conservation International, to provide locals a new way of living that is free of cutting down trees,
- e. Calls upon the NGO, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation plus pro-forest activities (REDD+) to fund incentive programs designed to steer away from deforestation practices,
- f. Calls upon the NICFI to fund satellite remote sensing,
- g. Giving specific resources to countries such as those in need of technology rather than providing them with money to prevent misuse by companies,
- h. Attracting capital for development so it can pay itself off later.