

# ECOSOC



## Topic B: “Food Waste Reduction: Ensuring Resources Reach Those in Need”

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# Welcoming letter

Greetings delegates,

We extend you a warm and cordial welcome to the 11th edition of the CFMUN. This event promises to be a remarkable experience that will enrich you from multiple perspectives. We are Pía Lechuga and Almudena Armada, and we are honored to serve as your moderator and chair for the ECOSOC committee.

At this CFMUN, you will have the opportunity to engage in an extraordinary and unforgettable experience, and cultivate or develop skills such as negotiation, diplomacy, public speaking, among others, which will serve you substantially. This comprehensive guide to the topic will be essential for your research, as it will provide insights into the current issue and assist you in developing the position of your country throughout the event. We will serve as your guides with the objective of moderating the committee and ensuring that this MUN is yet another exceptional experience for you. We eagerly anticipate that this experience will become truly unforgettable for each of you, enriched by your presence.

Sincere regards,

Pía Lechuga and Almudena Armada  
Moderator and Chair of ECOSOC

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# I. Committee Background

The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), was founded on June 21st, 1946. It was created to be in charge of addressing social, economic and environmental problems, through policies, expediting global efforts and important conferences. It is the forum where political recommendations are evaluated and debated.

ECOSOC is made up of 54 members and is one of the six main organs of the United Nations.

This council meets annually for a substantive four-week session, held in July each year, where ministers and other senior officials participate to discuss important issues, facilitating the advancement of objectives on global economic, and social problems.

## II. Introduction to the Topic

One third of the food produced worldwide is wasted on its way from its origin to your home. This represents more than one billion tons. This means that 24% of the food produced is not consumed. Not to mention that every 1 in 10 people suffer from malnutrition. This not only affects health and nutrition, it also affects economically and the environmental. Food waste has an important financial cost of more than 1 billion dollars each year; also, it affects directly to the environment approximately between 8% and 10% of greenhouse emissions. If our way to live doesn't change by 2050, food waste will have been duplicated. An important event that caused many people to be in extreme poverty was COVID-19; this caused people not to have economical resources to afford food.

Approximately 144 million children suffer growth retardation; this is more than 1 in 5 children in the world. This problem could leave several repercussions in the long term for millions of families around the world.

## III. Evolution of the Topic

The amount of food waste depends between developed countries and in no developed countries. In places that have more economical resources food waste occurs focused on the unnecessary consumption of products. In contrast the undeveloped places food waste occurs on the production and distribution because they don't count with necessary infrastructure and post harvest technologies. Innovation is of almost importance for decreasing food waste. New alternatives are being planned to transform food remains in useful products such as healthy flour or food supplements. Also there are some techniques like proper drying and refrigeration to help reduce food waste. **Since the Objectives of Sustainable Development was established in 2015, they are fighting to reduce half of food waste for 2030.** disadvantaged, the progress they have made has not been entirely equitable, they need the constant help and commitment of the governments and companies involved.

## IV. Relevant Events

- International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (September 29, annually): This global observance, recognized by the United Nations, raises awareness about the significant issue of food waste and loss, encouraging action across sectors to reduce waste and ensure food reaches those who need it (FAO, 2023).
- ReFED Food Waste Solutions Summit (June 23-25, 2025): An annual event bringing together stakeholders from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors to collaborate on solutions to reduce food waste. The summit focuses on actionable strategies for scaling food waste innovations (ReFED, 2025).

## IV. Relevant Events

- Food Waste Prevention Week (April 7-13, 2024): A national campaign dedicated to raising awareness of food waste prevention and inspiring individuals and businesses to adopt practices that reduce food loss. The week encourages proactive behavior changes to minimize waste across all stages of food production and consumption (Wasted Food Action, 2024).
- World Environment Day (June 5, annually): Organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), World Environment Day often highlights food waste as a key environmental issue. Various campaigns and initiatives are launched to raise awareness about the environmental impact of food waste and to promote sustainable consumption practices worldwide (UNEP, 2024).



## V. UN and External Actions

### UN Actions :

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) seeks to end all forms of hunger and malnutrition by 2030. This promotes equitable access to food.
- The World Food Program (WFP) has provided urgent food relief and financial support to vulnerable populations.
- UNEP launched a Coalition "Food is never waste" which seeks to reduce food waste through the creation of sustainable cold chains and national strategies. 25 countries have worked on this.

## V. UN and External Actions

### External Actions :

- NGOs have been promoting sustainable agricultural practices with the aim of more equitable distribution of food.
- Non-governmental organizations have also implemented campaigns to raise awareness about food waste and its effect on global food security, motivating governments and corporations to adopt more effective actions.
- Countries have maintained free trade to allow food to reach regions with great development to those with greater poverty, which is essential to reduce the global food crisis.

## VI. Conclusion

In conclusion, food waste has been increasing over time. While in many places such as homes, businesses and restaurants, a large amount of food is wasted, in others, millions of people around the world face a lack of essential food resources and have an unbalanced diet.

Although various actions have been taken to address the problem, it continues to increase and affect many people and the environment.

Due to the magnitude of this issue, it is urgent to change the way we consume food to reduce waste, and to distribute the food resource to more places, especially to the few developed ones, to ensure that everyone has access to food, without wasting it.

## VII. Committee Focus

- What are some mechanisms that could be instituted to minimize food waste from production to retail?
- How should local communities be involved in the redistribution of food to ensure that surplus food is given to people in need?
- What policies should governments adopt to encourage food waste reduction and improve access to food by vulnerable populations.
- How might technology be used to reduce the wastage of food, improving the equitable distribution of this most basic human need?
- What are the environmental and social impacts of food waste and its reduction to sustainability and equity?
- What are the environmental and social impacts of food waste and its reduction to sustainability and equity?

## VII. Participation List

- Federative Republic of Brazil
- French Republic
- Japan
- Kingdom of Denmark
- Kingdom of Spain
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- New Zealand
- People's Republic of China
- Republic of Botswana
- Republic of Cabo Verde
- Republic of Cameroon
- Republic of Colombia
- Republic of Costa Rica
- Republic of Equatorial Guinea
- Republic of Korea
- Russian Federation
- State of Qatar
- Swiss Confederation
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- United States of America

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