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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
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Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

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CONFERENCE

Forty-second Session
2021
International Year of Date Palm (Draft Resolution)

Extract from the Report of the 165th Council Session (30 November – 4 December 2020)

19. The Council, recalling the criteria outlined in the FAO Policy on the Proclamation and Implementation of International Years, as adopted by the 144th Session of Council (June 2012), and the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 1980/67 regarding International Years and Anniversaries, endorsed the following:

[...]

- c) the draft Conference resolution submitted by the 27th Session of COAG on the observance by the UN System of an “*International Year of Date Palm*” in 2027, as set out in *Appendix F* to this Report.

[...]

Resolution .../2021

International Year of Date Palm

THE CONFERENCE,

Considering the urgent need to raise awareness of the economic benefits of sustainably produced dates;

Recognizing the important contribution of dates to the adaptation to climate change;

Noting the importance of sustainable farming and production practices to the livelihoods of millions of rural farm families and small holder farmers in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and other regions of the world;

Cognizant of the historical contribution of dates, to food security, nutrition, livelihoods and incomes of smallholder farmers;

Concerned over the current need to invigorate market recognition of the benefits of dates and to promote efficient value chains embracing innovative mechanization, digitalization and post-harvest services;

Recognizing the vast genetic diversity of dates and their adaptive capacities to a range of production environments and marketing demands;

Recognizing that date palms as an important source of income and the need to empower youth and women through education, to assure the quality of family diets and to develop an agribusiness system that includes the crop byproducts;

Recognizing that the observance of an International Year of Date Palm by the international community would contribute significantly to raising awareness of the suitability for sustainable cultivation of date palm under adverse climatic conditions, while directing policy attention to improving value chain efficiencies;

Stressing that costs for implementation of the Year and the FAO involvement will be covered by extra-budgetary resources to be identified;

Requests the Director-General to transmit this Resolution to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a view to having the General Assembly of the United Nations consider at its next session, declaring 2027 as the International Year of Date Palm.

(Adopted on 2021)