

Annexes



Annex 1

TERMS OF REFERENCE of the Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in Food and Agriculture

The Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in Food and Agriculture shall advise the Director-General on ethical issues in food and agriculture, including forestry and fisheries. The Eminent Experts shall be appointed by the Director-General under the terms of Article VI.4 of the FAO Constitution and Rule XXXV of the General Rules of the Organization and the guidance provided by the Conference.

Composition

The Panel shall consist of eight Eminent Experts designated in their personal capacity by the Director-General, in accordance with established procedures and practices for a period of four years. The Eminent Experts shall be of recognized competence in ethics, philosophy, humanities or a relevant economic, legal or scientific discipline with experience of ethics, and be of high moral authority and international or regional standing. The Panel shall, as far as practical, represent varied geographical, cultural and religious backgrounds.

Terms of Reference

1. The Panel of Eminent Experts shall reflect on and promote reflection on ethical issues arising from food production and consumption practices and on agricultural development, including forestry and fisheries, in the context of food security and sustainable rural development and in an environment of rapid global change.
2. The Panel shall, in particular, consider ethical issues relating to the interests of present and future generations regarding the sustainable use of natural resources, the safeguarding of biodiversity and the balanced mix of traditional and modern technologies to increase food security and sustainable agriculture.
3. Based on the above considerations, the Panel shall:
 - a. promote an overall sense of international responsibility with regard to the development of necessary policies and instruments aimed at maximizing global benefits, while minimizing risks, arising from the application of modern technologies to food and agriculture;
 - b. seek to increase the awareness of States, intergovernmental organizations,

- nongovernmental organizations, civil society and public opinion worldwide with regard to ethical issues in food and agriculture in order to promote international understanding and appropriate action on such issues, bearing in mind that different communities have different cultural values;
- c. advise on possible international, regional or national action or the preparation of instruments, as appropriate, to respond best to ethical issues arising from food and agriculture, with due regard to interdependence among generations, among countries and between food security and other community needs;
 - d. encourage exchange of information on all issues of an ethical nature arising out of food and agriculture.
4. The Panel may consider any other issue related to the above.
 5. In its consideration of the above, the Panel shall advise the Director-General on the possible role and policies of FAO. ●

Annex 2

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES **on the Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in** **Food and Agriculture** **2004–07**

Francisco J. Ayala (United States of America)



Francisco Ayala was a member of the Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in Food and Agriculture 2000–03. He was born in 1934 in Madrid, Spain, but has been a United States citizen since 1971. He is Professor of Biological Sciences and of Philosophy at the University of California at Irvine, and a former president and chair of the Board of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was a member of President Clinton's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology. In 2002, he received the National Medal of Science from President Bush. He is the author of more than 850 articles and 20 books. His scientific research focuses on population and evolutionary genetics, including the origin of species, genetic diversity of populations, the origin of malaria, the population structure of parasitic protozoa and the molecular clock of evolution. He also writes about the interface between religion and science, and on philosophical issues concerning epistemology, ethics and the philosophy of biology.

Ruth Chadwick (United Kingdom)



Ruth Chadwick is Professor of Bioethics and Director of the ESRC Centre for Economic and Social Aspects of Genomics at Lancaster University. She holds a B.Phil. in Philosophy and a D.Phil (on "The ethics of eugenics and genetic engineering"), both from Oxford University; and an LLB from London University. She held positions in Liverpool, Cardiff and Preston before moving to Lancaster in 2000. She has coordinated a number of projects funded by the European Commission, including the Euroscreen projects (1994–96; 1996–99) and co-edits the journal *Bioethics* and the online journal *Genomics, Society and Policy*. She is Chair of the Ethics Committee of the Human Genome Organisation and a member of the Food Ethics Council, the Advisory Committee on Novel Foods and Processes and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Strategy Panel on Biosciences for Society. She was editor-in-chief of the award-winning *Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics* (1998). She is an academician of the Academy of the Learned Societies for the Social Sciences and a partner in the North West Genetics Knowledge Park.

Chee Yoke Ling (Malaysia)

■ Born in 1959, Chee Yoke Ling is a lawyer trained in international law, with a Masters of Law from Cambridge University and a first-class honours in Law from the University of Malaya. She is Legal Advisor to the Third World Network, an international coalition of organizations and individuals that aims to articulate the sustainable development needs and perspectives of developing countries at the global level. For more than 20 years, Chee Yoke Ling has been very active on a national level in policy research and advocacy, focusing on trade, environment and development issues, working with local communities. For the past ten years, she has been a key non-governmental organization player at the international level, representing the Third World Network in many international conferences and meetings, including at the United Nations, the Commission on Sustainable Development, and at several trade and investment seminars. Of particular concern in her work are the ecological, social and economic impacts of globalization, especially in the developing countries of the South.

Carlos María Correa (Argentina)

■ Born in 1949, Carlos María Correa is a lawyer and economist. He is a professor at the University of Buenos Aires and has taught in universities all over the world in legal and economical matters related to North–South cooperation. He is well known for his sensitivity to ethical issues and the interest of developing countries. He has, on several occasions, been a consultant in the negotiating process of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources. He has also been a consultant in many other United Nations organizations. He has taught post-graduate international training courses, including in international trade and the World Trade Organization (graduate), political economy of science and technology (post-graduate), economics of intellectual property (post-graduate), patent law (post-graduate), and WTO multilateral trade agreements (post-graduate). He is Chair of the Genetic Resources Policy Committee of the Consultative Group in International Agricultural Research, a member of the World Health Organization Commission on Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Public Health, established by the World Health Assembly in February 2004, and director of the project on Intellectual Property and Development of the South Centre. He was one of the six members of the International Commission on Intellectual Property Rights established by the Government of United Kingdom (www.iprcommission.org), which culminated with the 2002 publication of its milestone report, *Integrating Intellectual Property Rights and Development Policies*, which included several chapters dedicated to agriculture and many ethical considerations. He was previously director of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Industrial Development Organization Regional Program on Informatics and Microelectronics for Latin America and the Caribbean (1991–95), Undersecretary of State for Informatics and Development of the Government of Argentina (1984–89), coordinator of the

Inter-Ministerial Group on Intellectual Property of the Argentine Government (1987–89) and a lawyer and private consultant, specialized in intellectual property, investment and negotiation of international transfer of technology agreements (1976–1984).

Souleymane Bachir Diagne (Senegal)



Born in 1955 in Saint-Louis, Senegal, Souleymane Bachir Diagne is Professor at the Department of Philosophy, Northwestern University, Evanston, United States of America. He obtained his Ph.D. (Doctorat d'État) from Sorbonne in 1988. He is a philosopher of logic, including mathematical logic, and has also taught philosophy at secondary level. He was Special Adviser to the President of Senegal for cultural and educational policy (1993–99) and Preceptor of the Institute for Advanced Study and Research in the African Humanities (April–June 1999). Among other affiliations, he is a co-director of *Ethiopiennes* (a Senegalese journal of literature and philosophy), a member of the editorial board of *Présence Africaine*, Member of the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa, a member of the African Scientific Committee on Higher Education and a member of the “Conseil du Futur” (UNESCO). He has been the editor of and contributor to numerous books and the author of a great number of articles on African, Islamic and Southern philosophy, science and culture, among other issues.

Asbjørn Eide (Norway)



Member and Chair of the Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in Food and Agriculture from 2000, Asbjørn Eide is the former director and now senior fellow of the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo, and a visiting professor at the University of Lund. He is the former Secretary-General of the International Peace Research Association. He is a member and former Chair of the United Nations Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. He has been the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on the Right to Food as a Human Right, and Chair of the UN Working Group on Minorities. He has also been President of the Advisory Committee on National Minorities of the Council of Europe. He has published extensively on human rights issues and is Dr. juris h.c. of the University of Lund.

Cecilia A. Florencio (the Philippines)



Cecilia Florencio is a nutrition scientist and educator. She obtained her Ph.D. from Michigan State University. She holds the highest academic rank in the University of the Philippines, where she also chairs the University Council's Committee on Academic Integrity and Accountability. She is president of a human rights organization, FoodFirst Information and Action Network, the Philippines, and a member of the World Health Organization's Virtual

Network of Experts to Assist in the Implementation of the Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health. She is a fellow of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences and member of the advisory board of several nutrition journals in Asia and United States of America. She is a former member of the Governing Board of the Philippine Nutrition Council and consultant in nutrition of international agencies and educational institutions, including the United Nations University. Her areas of research work are: development and evaluation of national/regional nutrition policies, plans and programmes; local people's knowledge; nutrition education and training; ethics in academe; and the human right to adequate food. Her most recent publication is the book *Nutrition in the Philippines: the past for its template, red for its color*.

Tewolde Berhan Gebre Egziabher (Ethiopia)

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Tewolde Berhan Gebre Egziabher is a well-recognized, charismatic African leader in matters related to ethics, agriculture and the environment. He was born in 1940, graduated in 1963 from the University of Addis Ababa and took a doctorate from the University of Wales in 1969. He was Dean of the Faculty of Science at the University of Addis Ababa (1974–78), Keeper of the National Herbarium (1978–1983), President of Asmara University (1983–1991) and Director of the Ethiopian Conservation Strategy Secretariat (1991–94). Since 1995, he has been Director-General of the Environmental Protection Authority of Ethiopia. He has often represented his country and acted as spokesperson for the whole of Africa in international negotiations dealing with major international instruments, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources. In 2000, he received the Right Livelihood Award "... for his exemplary work to safeguard biodiversity and the traditional rights of farmers and communities to their genetic resources". ●

Annex 3

AGENDA

for the fourth session of the Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in Food and Agriculture

1. Opening and welcome statements
2. Adoption of the agenda and timetable
3. (a) Ethical issues in globalization (in relation to food and agriculture) from a Third World perspective
(b) The loss of crops in a changing world
4. Interfaces between combating malnutrition, marketing and promotion of food, and the shaping of diet and food practices
5. Ethical significance of the FAO *Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security*
6. Bioenergy, food security and the right to food
7. Ethics and intellectual property in the context of food and agriculture

Annex 4

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

for the fourth session of the Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in Food and Agriculture

Draft provisional agenda

Annotated draft agenda

Ethical issues in globalization (in relation to food and agriculture) from a Third World perspective

The loss of crop genetic diversity in a changing world

Nutrigenomics (ngx) and personalised diet – points to consider

Ethical aspects of the right to food and freedom from hunger

Ethical aspects of bioenergy – a discussion paper

Ethical aspects of bioenergy: a discussion paper – outline

A preliminary review of ethical concerns regarding intellectual property rights in agriculture

Note on the interface between nutrition and food marketing/promotion practices

Annex 5

ETHICAL ISSUES ARISING FROM GLOBALIZATION: A PERSPECTIVE FROM THE SOUTH by **Tewelde Berhan Gebre Egziabher**

Globalization is rooted in the 500 years of history of Western Europe attempting, and succeeding in its attempts, to dominate the world. Western Europe coopted the rest of Europe into its ways, initially through force, but latterly through acculturation, so that now more or less the whole of Europe and the European diaspora in the other continents constitute the Western European global status quo. Japan managed to slip into that status quo in the nineteenth century. We call this process of transformation to become like Western Europe “development”. It is the present worldwide attempt to ape Western Europe through the process of development and become accepted by it that we have come to call globalization. Naturally, the rules of aping Western Europe are primarily set by Western Europe itself and its European diaspora.

Western Europe started the process of dominating the world by creating its own highly centralized states. It first fostered the dominance of the wife and children by the husband. The state then usurped authority from the local community, the clan and all higher categories of traditional human organization. This process enabled it to control the individual directly without involving any power stratum in between and to commandeer the male to fight its wars. However, its focused aggression needed an additional ingredient to enable it to dominate the world – that of excelling in technological innovation, especially at war. The industrial revolution provided it with the needed ingredient.

The assumption that makes us Southerners want to imitate Europe in development is that the change from our present state is going to lead to the improvement of our lives. But does change, even if apparently towards a dazzling state, always lead to improvement?

If it does not, we could change our ways to end up worse off than we had been. Given the globalizing ethos that is destabilizing the environment, the biggest uncertainties posed by development are those of whether the biosphere’s capacity to support life as we now know it, i.e. including us and other species, will become significantly impaired or not. If it does become impaired, could the human species, even with all that it can muster of what is left of its ethnic and cultural diversity, fail to adapt and thus become unable to continue into the changing indefinite future? To help us answer this crucial question, we need to remind ourselves briefly of the most fundamental traits of our species.

A single-celled organism carries out all the basic functions of life. It receives stimuli from the environment, and reacts to those stimuli in a manner that maximizes its chances of survival and reproduction.

A human being is made up of billions of cells that function in a coordinated manner. The

individual cells respond to stimuli and synchronize their reactions so that the human individual acts as a single purposeful unit in adapting to her/his environment.

A group of human individuals that sufficiently coordinates the minds of its members into synchronous action and reaction constitutes a society. A society thus collectively maximizes the chances of adaptation of its individual members, and hence its collective self, to the environment. In so doing, it contributes to maximizing adaptation to the biosphere and thus to the survival of the human species as a whole.

It is obvious, therefore, that if the human species is to continue adapting to environmental changes into the indefinite future, the individual human cells, the individual human beings, and the individual societies have to be safeguarded. So long as the individual human being is safe, so are the cells. However, an individual can be safeguarded at the expense of other individuals and, thus, a given human society and even the whole human species can become endangered by the whims of a powerful dictator.

A healthy human species with good prospects for a continuing successful adaptation to the changing environment and thus for survival into the indefinite future would thus:

1. In order to optimize survival at the cellular level, ensure availability to the individual of food, medication and appropriate working and living conditions, as well as protection from an unsuitable or harmful environment and from drugs that seriously distort the workings of the brain.
2. In order to optimize survival at the individual level, respect the basic human rights and curb all acts of other individuals and the society that would infringe upon them.
3. In order to enhance the chances of survival at the societal (national) level, coordinate into constructive single wholes the reactions of individuals in that society so that they can develop sensitive institutions to receive and react to signals of need, pain and dissatisfaction at the individual and societal levels. It must be pointed out, however, that as a rule, heterogeneity/diversity increases the chances of a species to survive conditions of changing environment, and homogeneity can lead to an evolutionary cul-de-sac. Therefore, even cooperative convergence may not necessarily be always adaptive even if it is harmonious. But cooperative tolerance of diversity certainly is.
4. In order to maintain societal diversity, coordinate at the global level the activities of societies (states, nations) into a single whole that nurtures and protects the diverse societal identities and fosters harmony in diversity among them without, however, tolerating barriers to interaction among them. This would maximize the chance of creative but coordinated action and, thus, the survival of the human species into the indefinite future. The human species can then act responsibly to continue helping itself and other species.

Therefore, to maximize the prospects for the survival into the indefinite future of humans and other species, the following steps will be required from both the world's states and from the United Nations Organization:

5. International trade, though essential as it is the motive force that is creating this globalizing world, should not be allowed to destroy cultural and economic diversity. The access to resources and the influence on societal norms that is now being enjoyed by multinational corporations without any limit should thus be regulated.

6. Effective steps should be taken to narrow the gap in the economic strengths of states across the globe, and in the personal incomes of people (citizens and resident foreigners alike) within the territories of states.
7. If goods and services continue to move freely across countries, so must the workers that produce them, including those involved in physical labour. As a less attractive alternative, the flow of goods and services has to be equally regulated so as to foster economic self-sufficiency in each country.
8. The mass media are important in disseminating views globally. Multinational corporations own most of them. Therefore, they use them to further their global control. The interests of mass media organizations must thus always be scrutinized and their activities regulated. Equally important is the need to foster mass media organizations that are not under the control of multinational corporations.
9. Private security companies are a threat to national sovereignty and cultural, social and economic diversity in the world and their proliferation should be stopped.
10. Confidential business information should be reduced to the absolute minimum lest it interfere with the dissemination of technical information and the growth of science and technology and lest, for lack of useful information to teach, it turn higher education irrelevant and eventually moribund and, thus, unnecessary to continue being given.
11. Conscious efforts should be made to devolve state power to local communities so that citizens are made to feel involved and, thus, motivated to continue diversifying their social, cultural and economic creativity. This will bolster the robustness of the human species to keep adapting to the now obviously inevitable changes that the future holds.
12. Disaffection by those who feel marginalized is likely to continue growing with globalization, and conscious and continuing alertness will be needed to spare the biosphere the use in desperation of chemical, nuclear and biological, especially biotechnological and nanobiotechnological, agents of destruction.
13. Failed states are a particular risk as havens for such disaffected destructive forces, and a global consensus should be developed on how to prevent states from failing and on how to help failed states to become effective, democratic, fostering diversity while at the same time preventing intergroup (interethnic, intercultural, interreligious, etc.) antagonisms and conflicts. ●



E-ISSN 978-92-5-106771-0 ISSN 1609-0047



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I2043E/1/02.11