



STATEMENT TO FAO

As a pacifist country, the Plurinational State of Bolivia has expressed its concern in other international forums over the escalation of the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. We regret that no progress is being made to overcome the lack of dialogue and understanding between the parties as the humanitarian situation of the affected people worsens.

Bolivia reiterates its call for peace and urges both sides to reach a prompt diplomatic and political solution to the conflict within the framework of international humanitarian law and respect for human rights. We call for peaceful solutions that address the legitimate security concerns of the parties, but are based on constructive dialogue in good faith, providing for minimum commitments that should be supported by the entire international community.

We feel the draft decision entitled “Proposal of Actions by FAO in Relation to the Implications on World Food Security and Agriculture from the Russian aggression against Ukraine” does not use neutral language and does not contribute to dialogue and consultation between both sides in the conflict.

FAO's mandate is to support Member Nations in achieving food and nutrition security and it is important for us to focus on this without politicizing our work.

The Plurinational State of Bolivia promotes food sovereignty and a life without hunger and without subjugation of any kind. The current conflict may affect the human right to food for all, but other ongoing global armed conflicts are also creating famine for others. FAO must therefore adopt the same impartial approach to all countries.

The Bolivian Government and people come from an age-old culture based on the use of dialogue to reach consensus and progress towards Wellbeing. Our concern within FAO is to promote food security and food sovereignty for our peoples within the framework of respect for all States. Bolivia therefore calls on the parties to the conflict to engage in dialogue to seek a peaceful solution and broker a *détente* to reach a consensus on food security for the parties.

We must act cautiously and in consultation with all parties to seek joint solutions to this conflict, which is of concern to all of us and has implications for global food security.

Bolivia calls for strict respect for FAO's mandate and rules of procedure to enable us to make real progress toward building solutions that ensure our peoples have enough food to eat.