

InterMUN 2025

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

**Addressing the spread of the famine in
Gaza causing extreme food deprivation
and increasing malnutrition.**



Moderator: Roberta Ude

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Welcoming message from the chair:

Dear delegates,

Welcome to the Food and Agriculture Organization committee. We are honored to have you join us as we address one of the most urgent humanitarian crises in the world, the growing famine in Gaza. Your participation and innovative ideas are essential in finding sustainable and compassionate solutions that ensure access to food, nutrition, and dignity for all. We encourage respectful debate, creative problem-solving, and collaboration as you represent your nations and work toward meaningful resolutions.

Sincerely,

Roberta Ude and Romina Ramírez

Committee's Background:

On October 16, 1945, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations was founded with a critical goal: to guarantee that people have continuous access to enough high-quality food to live active, healthy lives and to ensure food security for everyone.

Based in Rome, Italy, the FAO currently comprises 194 member states working in more than 130 nations throughout the world. It serves as a major worldwide center for policy coordination, technical assistance, and research meant to get rid of hunger and advance sustainable agricultural growth. FAO's activities are motivated by the realization that hunger results from inequalities in access, production, and distribution, not just lack of food. Consequently, the group hopes to change food systems to be more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable. Its programs support tiny farmers, advocate wise resource management, and inspire climate-resilient farming techniques.

FAO aims to reduce food waste, support rural economies, and promote agricultural technology, beyond just reacting to crises. FAO plays a leading part in offering urgent agricultural assistance during crises like pandemics, natural disasters, and conflicts. FAO also works with other UN agencies, like the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), to provide integrated solutions combining food aid with nutritional support, education, and rebuilding infrastructure.

FAO's international efforts include the "Zero Hunger" program, which matches the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG 2) aiming by 2030 to end hunger, attain food security, and advance sustainable agriculture. This includes providing seeds, fertilizers, cattle, and tools to aid farmers recovering from disasters. Working with businesses and governments, FAO assists nations in creating national food security policies and backs their policy execution protecting and improving food systems.

Topic Background:

For years, this tiny and highly populated piece of land—approximately 365 square kilometers in size—has been experiencing a growing humanitarian crisis that has now turned into an all-out famine. It is home to more than 2.2 million residents who have gone through rounds of violence, economic blockade, and infrastructure devastation. Each of these factors together strongly deteriorated the ability of Gaza to produce, import, and distribute food, while almost all its inhabitants became dependent on humanitarian assistance.

The roots of the current famine are multi-dimensional. Decades of political conflict have restricted access to agricultural land, fishing areas, and border crossings. Recurrent military operations destroyed farmlands, irrigation networks, and food storage facilities. Gaza's main sources of food-local crops, livestock, and fisheries-have been devastated. Farmers are unable to plant due to a lack of seeds, water, and electricity, while herders can't feed their animals because fodder imports are blocked or too expensive.

The infrastructure in Gaza has completely collapsed due to the continued conflict. Power outages, lasting up to hours or even days, make it impossible to operate water desalination plants and refrigeration systems. Bakeries, water pumps, and hospitals-all vital to food preparation and preservation-have also suffered from a lack of electricity and fuel. Water sources have been contaminated, and sewage overflows have increased the prevalence of diseases, further threatening the lives of already malnourished people.

The famine has struck the most vulnerable populations the hardest. According to new UN reports, over 600,000 children in Gaza suffer from acute malnutrition. Cases of wasting-growth that occurs from dangerous weight loss-and stunting-impaired growth due to malnutrition-are increasing at an alarming rate. Pregnant women, infants, and the elderly are the most vulnerable; many of them have died because of hunger

complications. Their families have resorted to extreme coping mechanisms like eating grass, animal feed, or canned goods already past their expiration dates.

Due to the unabated hostilities and restricted access, the global community has failed to deliver humanitarian aid consistently. The convoys by the FAO-WFP-OCHA are frequently delayed or barred from going on, keeping the flow of food, clean water, and medical supplies from the needy, thereby turning the famine into an uncontrolled force. The Gaza crisis is not only a case of failed political negotiation, but it also points to the breakdown in international humanitarian protection. It requires immediate global attention, heightened diplomatic pressure for access to deliver aid, and innovative solutions for food security that work even in conflict zones.

Current Situation:

By the end of 2025, there was a serious food and humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Over 90% of Gaza's population suffers from severe food insecurity, with over half of them experiencing famine-level hunger, according to UN and FAO assessments. Hospitals are reporting an increase in underweight and stunted growth cases due to the worrisome rates of child malnutrition. Some families must go days without eating, while others must survive by using dangerous alternatives like animal feed or rotten goods.

The ongoing conflict has devastated Gaza's agricultural capacity. Over 70% of farmland has been damaged or rendered inaccessible, including key areas for wheat and vegetable production. Livestock deaths are widespread due to lack of feed and clean water. Fishermen face severe restrictions, limiting access to coastal waters and cutting off one of Gaza's primary protein sources. These factors have resulted in near-total dependence on external food aid, which often cannot meet demand due to restricted border access and destroyed delivery routes.

Gaza's agricultural potential has been severely damaged by the continuing fighting. More than 70% of farmland, including important regions for the production of wheat and vegetables, has been damaged or made unusable. Lack of clean water and feed is a major cause of livestock deaths. Fishermen are subject to harsh regulations that restrict their access to coastal seas and cut off one of Gaza's main sources of protein. Due to limited border access and damaged delivery routes, these problems have led to a nearly complete reliance on outside food aid, which frequently fails to satisfy demand.

When feasible, the FAO has been actively working with other UN organizations to supply food kits, etc. Limited fuel supplies also prevent the operation of water pumps, bakeries, and refrigeration systems, making food storage nearly impossible. Humanitarian convoys continue to face blockages at border crossings, delaying life-saving assistance.

Food storage is practically impossible due to limited fuel supplies, which also hinder the operation of bakeries, refrigeration equipment, and water pumps. Life-saving aid is delayed as humanitarian convoys continue to encounter obstacles at border crossings.

The famine has disastrous effects on public health. Children and the elderly are especially vulnerable to illnesses including diarrhea, respiratory infections, and anemia because malnutrition impairs immunity. Waterborne sickness epidemics have also been brought on by the breakdown of sanitary infrastructure. The World Health Organization (WHO) cautions that if help is not increased very away, the combined impact of starvation, tainted water, and a lack of medical treatment could result in avoidable mass deaths.

In response, the FAO urges all parties to facilitate unrestricted humanitarian access, restore agricultural production, and provide financial and technical support to rebuild Gaza's food infrastructure. The organization also emphasizes the importance of long-term strategies such as local crop recovery, greenhouse farming, and regional cooperation for

sustainable food systems. Without urgent and coordinated international action, Gaza risks facing a prolonged famine that could devastate future generations and deepen instability across the region.

Chair/Moderator Conclusion:

As we, delegations, come to the end of our deliberation on the famine in Gaza, we are faced with one of the most pressing humanitarian crises of the modern day.

Millions of civilians, many of them children, are caught in a desperate cycle of hunger, malnutrition, and despair. Collapsing food systems, severely constrained humanitarian access, and continued conflict have brought us to a defining moment that calls for urgent action and collective leadership.

As members of the Food and Agriculture Organization, it is our shared responsibility to rise above political differences and focus on what truly matters: saving lives and restoring human dignity. We must work together toward practical and sustainable solutions, guaranteeing emergency food aid delivery, rebuilding the agricultural sector in Gaza, and ensuring the protection of civilians' rights to food and safety. This crisis reminds us that our decisions here have the power to bring hope to those who have lost almost everything. Let us continue to collaborate with empathy, determination, and purpose so that the people of Gaza may once again see a future free of hunger and fear.

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