

**CONSTITUTION  
OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

Signed at Quebec, October 16, 1945

**PREAMBLE**

The Nations accepting this Constitution, being determined to promote the common welfare by furthering separate and collective action on their part for the purposes of

- raising levels of nutrition and standards of living of the peoples under their respective jurisdictions,
- securing improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agricultural products,
- bettering the condition of rural populations, and thus contributing toward an expanding world economy,

hereby establish the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, hereinafter referred to as the "Organization", through which the Members will report to one another on the measures taken and the progress achieved in the fields of action set forth above.

**ARTICLE I (FUNCTIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION)**

1. The Organization shall collect, analyze, interpret, and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food and agriculture.

2. The Organization shall promote and, where appropriate, shall recommend national and international action with respect to

- (a) scientific, technological, social, and economic research relating to nutrition, food and agriculture;
- (b) the improvement of education and administration relating to nutrition, food and agriculture, and the spread of public knowledge of nutritional and agricultural science and practice;
- (c) the conservation of natural resources and the adoption of improved methods of agriculture production;
- (d) the improvement of the processing, marketing, and distribution of food and agricultural products;
- (e) the adoption of policies for the provision of adequate agricultural credit, national and international;
- (f) the adoption of international policies with respect to agricultural commodity arrangements.

3. It shall also be the function of the Organization

- (a) to furnish such technical assistance as governments may request;
- (b) to organize, in cooperation with the governments concerned, such missions as may be needed to assist them to fulfil the obligations arising from their acceptance of the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture; and
- (c) generally to take all necessary and appropriate action to implement the purposes of the Organization as set forth in the Preamble.