

HMDC Presents... UNICEF: Sample Position Paper

HMDC Presents... Sample Position Paper: UNICEF: Childhood Hunger, Food Waste, Food Recovery and Farmland Restoration

THIS IS A MODEL TO LEARN FROM, NOT TO COPY. We use this sample to see how one real country's facts, taken from our HMDC UNICEF report, fit into the four HMDC parts on one page. We read it once for the ideas and once for the shape. Then we close it and write our own paper about our own country, in our own words, starting from our own Country Report.

THE SAMPLE PAPER

Committee: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) **Topic:** Childhood Hunger, Food Waste, Food Recovery and Farmland Restoration **Country:** The People's Republic of China

Background of the Topic. The People's Republic of China believes that childhood hunger cannot end while the world throws food away and lets its farmland wear out. In 2022, the world wasted 1.05 billion tonnes of food, almost one fifth of the food available to consumers, while 783 million people were hungry (United Nations Environment Programme, March 27, 2024). Even more food never reaches a shop: 13.3 percent was lost between harvest and retail in 2023 (United Nations Statistics Division, July 7, 2026). Meanwhile, about 1.7 billion people live where land damaged by human activity has lowered crop yields, and this damaged land is linked to 47 million stunted children, meaning children too short for their age after long-term poor nutrition (Food and Agriculture Organization, November 3, 2025). Saving food that is already grown, and repairing the land that grows it, are therefore child nutrition tools, not only environmental ones.

UN and International Action. China supports the Sustainable Development Goals, including Target 12.3 to halve food waste and reduce food loss by 2030 and Target 15.3 to restore degraded land (A/RES/70/1, 2015). China also supports UN Environment Assembly resolution UNEP/EA.4/Res.2 (2019), which puts prevention first and food recovery second, and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (A/RES/73/284, 2019). However, these promises are not yet delivering. Progress on food loss "has been stagnant" (United Nations Statistics Division, July 7, 2026), and Africa's Great Green Wall had received only US\$2.5 billion of the US\$19 billion pledged by early 2023 (UN Convention to Combat Desertification, March 27, 2023).

Our Country's Policy. China treats cutting food loss and waste as a matter of national food security. Its national action plan aims, by the end of 2027, to bring grain and food losses in production, storage, transport and processing below international average levels, to cut food waste per meal in school canteens, and to improve national food waste statistics (Government of China via Xinhua, November 25, 2024). China's firm national interest is that each country leads its own plan, and that developing countries receive measuring systems and technical help before any binding target. Timelines and which international funds pay are open to negotiation.

Proposed Solutions and Expected Opposition. China proposes, first, that every member state find at least one food loss and waste "hotspot" and act on it now (Champions 12.3, Last Accessed: October 2026), starting with school canteens, where cutting waste and improving children's meals happen together. Second, every member state should review its food donation laws through the Global Food Donation Policy Atlas, which now covers more than 25 countries and the European Union (Harvard Law School Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation, June 19, 2025), giving priority to fruit, vegetables and other nutritious foods. Third, joint UNICEF and International Fund for Agricultural Development projects should pair farm storage and restoration with child nutrition, and part of the Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership's funds should reach farming areas with high child stunting (UN Convention to Combat Desertification, July 9, 2026). China expects European Union members to press other regions to copy their binding target of a 30 percent cut per person by 2030 (European Parliament, September 9, 2025). China will answer that only a few places have food waste data reliable enough to track progress (United Nations Environment Programme, March 27, 2024), so measuring must come first.

HOW THIS SAMPLE IS BUILT

1. **Building the background around the December focus:** Harvard's chairs want food waste, food recovery and farmland restoration at the centre, so we chose one harm for each December piece: wasted food (entry 1.7), lost food (entry 2.2) and damaged farmland linked to stunted children (entry 1.9). We left out war-zone hunger and therapeutic food, which the report treats as background only. Our last sentence ties all three pieces back to children, because UNICEF is a children's agency.
2. **Building UN action from Parts 2A and 2B:** We picked three items from the resolution table in Part 2A that match the focus: A/RES/70/1 (Targets 12.3 and 15.3), UNEP/EA.4/Res.2 (prevention first, then recovery) and A/RES/73/284 (restoration). Then we pointed to two gaps, one on food loss (entry 2.2) and one on farmland money (entry 3.8), because gaps are where our solutions belong.
3. **Building our country's policy from Parts 2C and 3A:** China appears in the report through its national food loss and waste plan (entry 3.3b) and its bloc position in Part 2C, "Where the Major Blocs Stand." We chose China instead of our earlier delegation because China's own documented policy is about food waste, which matches the December focus. The last sentence shows the chair where China can make a deal.
4. **Building the solutions from Parts 1C, 3A and 3C:** Each solution matches one December piece. The hotspot idea covers food waste (entry 3.1), the donation law Atlas covers food recovery (entry 3.3), and the UNICEF and IFAD projects with Riyadh funding cover farm loss and farmland (entries 3.2 and 3.11). The only mention of school meals is the school canteen, which we tie back to cutting waste.
5. **Predicting the opposition from Parts 2C and 3A:** Part 2C shows that the European Union has passed binding food waste targets at home (entry 3.3a). We predicted that EU members will want other regions to follow, then answered with a fact from entry 1.7 about missing data. That turns an objection into a reason to fund measuring systems first.

(The paper body runs about 560 words, inside our 450 to 600 word range.)