



Press Corps/The Economist

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Reporters: Daniel Harper and Kai Cortadellas

Topic: ECOFIN/Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

Our Land is Under Attack

Every day, the ground we subside ourselves off is being ruined. This destructive force not only costs the global economy trillions of dollars but also kills the environment by destroying habitats and changing the climates of affected areas in a way that prevents native wildlife from ever healing the land. Desertification is the culprit of this destruction and environmental harm, caused primarily by unsustainable agricultural practices.

Each year, the world demands more and more food, which causes farmers to turn to more desperate, unsustainable practices. The United Nations recognizes the dangers that desertification poses, so it has called on the middle school ECOFIN committee to find a solution to the problem. Delegates from the committee have now worked together to produce a solution that incorporates the shared beliefs of a multitude of countries.

First, delegates noted that desertification is primarily caused by those who have no idea of the ecological harm they are causing. “People need to be educated to know that this is not right

and that this is killing their planet, their earth, the place they call home,” said Dylan Carey, a member of the Somali delegation.

After addressing the smaller local farmers, Delegates looked toward major agricultural corporations around the world. The U.N. Proposal calls for limiting and making better use of the resources we have available, such as better water allocation, more attention to land management, and more. Delegates have also called for every member nation to contribute 10 years of annual funding to subsidize green jobs.

The third part of the proposal was focused on conservation and sustainability. If this proposal is put into effect, member nations will be encouraged to reduce carbon emissions, create organizations with the mission of encouraging sustainable development, and restate the importance of water conservation.

The last component of the joint paper focuses on the procedures used to combat desertification. By urging member nations to invest in a vast array of desertification-preventing measures, such as natural soil enrichment, allocating more land to prevent overgrazing, but also incorporating investing more funds into researching methods still unknown.

Desertification destroys the places where we grow our food, one of humankind’s most crucial resources. It causes untold economic damage, starts famines, and has the potential to kill tens of millions of people. If nothing is done, farmers will turn to unsustainable practices in an attempt to feed themselves, their community, and the rest of the world. And if these unsustainable practices continue, environmental destruction will persist, land will dry up, and we will not have enough food to feed ourselves.