

- (c) The prevention of speculative and violent fluctuations in the prices of food, the instruments of production, and other necessities, including industrial goods, under the conditions of scarcity that appear certain to prevail after the war ;
- (d) The post-war readjustment of agriculture to achieve a progressive and balanced expansion of production and consumption throughout the world ;

2. That these Governments and authorities take, individually and in concert, whether by conference or otherwise, all necessary measures, both domestic and international, to secure the application of this principle and the achievement of these objectives.

XIV. ADJUSTMENT OF PRODUCTION IN THE TRANSITION FROM THE SHORT-TERM TO THE LONG-TERM PERIOD

THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Recommends—

1. That countries whose agriculture has been impaired should progressively modify their short-term allocation of resources to conform more closely to the long-term plan aimed at better nutrition and greater efficiency in production—for instance, in certain parts of Europe this might mean increasing the production of milk products as herds can be re-established, accompanied by declining production of grains ;

2. That countries which will have been producing during the short-term period more than normal output because of freedom from enemy action in the war or which have undertaken new lines of production, should progressively adjust the allocation of agricultural resources to conform to a long-term co-ordinated production plan for the best use of these resources on a world scale, based on better diets for their own people and on the international demand for nutritionally better food.

XV. LONG-TERM PRODUCTION POLICY

WHEREAS :

1. It is recognized that a secure, adequate, and suitable supply of food should be a cardinal aim in every country ;
2. It is recognized that this can be achieved only as part of a world-wide policy of industrial and agricultural expansion ;
3. It is recognized that in order to secure this result producers should receive a fair return for their products ;
4. In order to attain the highest nutritional standards, a progressive expansion and, where necessary, reorientation in agriculture will be required ;
5. It is desirable to formulate a body of principles which are applicable to agricultural policy in appropriate form in all countries ;

THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Recommends—

1. (a) That the inherent natural and economic advantages of any area should determine the farming systems adopted and the commodities produced in that area ;

(b) That farming systems should be so designed as—

- (i) To maintain soil fertility at levels which will sustain yields and ensure adequate return for labour ;
- (ii) To protect crops and live-stock from major pests and diseases ;
- (iii) To favour steady employment throughout the year ;

(These three ends, in general and save in exceptional circumstances, can best be assured by balanced mixed rotational farming and by avoidance of single-crop production, or monoculture) ;

(c) That production of nutritionally desirable foods which can be obtained from elsewhere only with difficulty or not at all is a special obligation of the agriculture of every country ;

(d) In every region subject to drought (occasional or in the form of sharply marked periodic dry seasons) suitable measures should be undertaken, partly by storage and partly by diversification of production and development of water resources and cultural practices ;

(e) Land used or likely to be required for agriculture should be protected from erosion ;

(f) The spread of existing knowledge by education and the development of new knowledge by research should be constantly promoted, and that in these matters nations can co-operate to great advantage ;

2. That, subject to these principles and with the object of expanding production of the foods needed for its people, each nation should undertake to direct its policies toward—

- (a) Increasing the efficiency of production in present producing areas through the introduction, as rapidly as conditions permit, of better farming methods, suitable modern equipment, improved varieties of crops and strains of live-stock, and soil-conservation practices ;
- (b) Developing any suitable undeveloped areas, where this is economically feasible, through the use of such measures as clearing the land and large-scale drainage and irrigation projects ;
- (c) Fostering desirable changes in the pattern of production, designed to give greater emphasis to foods rich in vitamins, minerals, and proteins—

(i) By encouraging the production, particularly in areas near consumption centres, of such products as vegetables, fruits, milk, eggs, and meat, which are relatively perishable and high in value and which are also the foods required in greatly increased quantities for better nutrition ;

(ii) By encouraging the expansion of live-stock production in areas capable of growing or economically shipping in the necessary feedstuffs ;

(iii) By limiting the production of bulky, easily stored and transported energy foods in areas where they cannot be produced efficiently ;