

**Committee:** Environmental

**Question of:** Environmental Impact of Major International Events and Festivals

**Submitted by:** Norway

**Signatories:** Morocco, United Kingdom, Mozambique, Peru, Kenya, Malta, Bahrain, El Salvador, Chile and France

The General Assembly,

*Recognizing* that major international festivals and events contribute to an estimated average of 2.3 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually, thereby significantly impacting global carbon footprints,

*Acknowledging* that large-scale international events attract millions of visitors which lead to an average of 23% increase in waste generation in host cities, burdening local waste management systems,

*Being aware that* international festivals and sporting events contribute to approximately 21% of additional plastic waste due to single-use plastics used by attendees and organizers,

*Conscious* of the fact that major global events can result in an average water usage increase of up to 1.6 million liters per day in the host area, intensifying the stress on local water resources and infrastructure,

*Observing that*, per recent estimates, the ecological footprint of a sizable international event can lead to the equivalent of a 7% yearly increase in the deforestation rate in certain regions, disturbing local biodiversity and ecosystems,

1. Urges event organizers to reduce carbon emissions by:
  - a. Implementing a carbon offset program for all international events
  - b. Encouraging the use of public transport, cycling, and walking among attendees
  - c. Transitioning to renewable energy sources for event power needs;
2. Calls for a significant reduction in waste production by:
  - a. Promoting zero-waste policies
  - b. Establishing recycling and composting facilities on-site
  - c. Banning single-use plastics and encouraging reusable materials;
  - d. Add very expensive fees for parking and limit the parking space to force people to use the public transport
3. Encourages the conservation of local water resources by:
  - a. Using water-saving technologies and fixtures
  - b. Implementing rainwater harvesting systems for event use
  - c. Employing water management strategies to prevent waste;
4. Emphasizes the preservation of local biodiversity by:
  - a. Conducting environmental impact assessments prior to events

- b. Avoiding sensitive natural habitats and adhering to ecological best practices
  - c. Implementing measures to protect wildlife and native flora during events;
5. Supports the enhancement of local socioeconomic conditions by:
- a. Engaging local communities in the planning and execution of events
  - b. Sourcing materials and labor from local suppliers to reduce transportation-related emissions
  - c. Investing in long-term sustainability projects in host communities;
6. Advocates for the involvement of event attendees in environmental protection by:
- a. Educating attendees on the environmental impact of events
  - b. Encouraging participation in sustainability initiatives
  - c. Providing incentives for eco-friendly behaviors;
7. Promotes the adoption of sustainable food policies by:
- a. Reducing food waste through proper planning and donation of surplus
  - b. Encouraging vendors to use biodegradable or compostable utensils;
8. Recommends the advancement of green technology in event construction by:
- a. Utilizing sustainable materials for temporary structures
  - b. Emphasizing the reusability and recyclability of building components
  - c. Minimizing land disturbance and promoting the rehabilitation of event sites post-use
  - d. Establishing the use of solar power so that by 2030, 50% of lighting is solar powered
  - e. Using biofuels to power large portions of festivals, biofuels are sourced from organic materials such as cooking oil, and offers a sustainable alternative to diesel;
9. Stresses the importance of environmental accountability by:
- a. Requiring comprehensive sustainability reporting from event organizers
  - b. Implementing third-party verification of environmental impacts and mitigation efforts
  - c. Establishing penalties for non-compliance with environmental standards;
10. Proposes the establishment of an international environmental charter for events by:
- a. Creating a set of standardized environmental requirements for event organizers worldwide
  - b. Facilitating the exchange of best practices and innovative solutions among international stakeholders
  - c. Encouraging collaboration between international bodies to monitor and guide the environmental performance of events.
11. Promote greener transportation methods for all festival goers by the event's organisation;
- a. Event organisers must develop strategies to increase conveniency of using public transport
    - i. Aim for 75% of all festival goers to utilise buses and trains as methods of transport by 2030, by increasing connectivity between major hotels and cities to festival grounds.

- b. Discourage private transportation by increasing the parking tickets of cars with less than 4 passengers. This will encourage carpooling and utilisation of public transport.