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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY United Nations Proposal

Proposal # 15

Proposed by France

Authors: Jack Bradley, Rebecca Scharre, Alex Nicodemus, Clayton Pusateri

Committee: B

School: Academy of Louisville

Action on Proposal

City: Louisville

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Passed

Defeated

An act to install drip irrigation systems in Sub-Saharan Africa to capitalize on rising grain prices

Be it hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the United Nations

Justification Clause: In a village located at the foot of a steep mountain in Chad, women prepare meals by crushing dried weeds for their starving families. This is all they can eat after a serious drought that left over one million people starving and in need of any food they can get their hands on. With an average earning of \$885 per year, if they can sell grain which costs \$8 per bushel, they would be able to get above the poverty line. Drip irrigation is commonly used to water small gardens. We propose to take the method of drip irrigation and enlarge it on a mass scale to cover more ground, even entire villages. This would help solve the problem by using less water than other methods currently used, such as center pivot irrigation. Because drip irrigation uses less water than other systems, it saves more water to be used for drinking, and it allows people to be able to produce more wheat to sell and get above the poverty line. In drip irrigation, small hoses attached to a main waterline are buried in the ground that run along the plants' roots and have a massive amount of small openings. Water then drips out of the openings and into the ground right next to the plant roots. This is a much more productive way to irrigate dry climates because the system will not lose water to evaporation as the system is underground. Large-scale drip irrigation will change the future for impoverished communities in Sub-Saharan Africa. It could be possible to see those women eating a nice meal with their families while having some water to spare.

Section I: Due to French colonial history in Sub-Saharan Africa, we will fund the initial development and research of the drip irrigation systems, then United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (U.N.F.A.O) will install drip irrigation systems in 100 Sub-Saharan African villages.

Section II: The estimated cost for a drip irrigation system is as low as \$200 per acre. One acre can produce enough grain to produce over 2,400 loaves of bread, which is enough to feed an entire family for a whole year.

Section III: Excess grain for selling will be stored in silos donated by France.

Section IV: This proposal will go into effect immediately after passage. French contractors could potentially install all the systems in nine weeks with the help of the U.N F.A.O. This time-frame is based on an estimated time of 36 hours per well.