**Country:** French Republic

**Delegate:** Leonardo Morales Hernández

**Committee:** United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

**Topic:** Genetic engineering as a tool to face climate change

Good afternoon honourable chair and fellow delegates. On behalf of the president of the French Republic; Emmanuel Macron, and the people of this country, this delegation is grateful for the invitation to discuss about genetic engineering as a tool to face climate change.

Climate change has affected the international community in a huge way since the average temperature of the planet has risen 1° C since 1850 bringing with these more frequent natural disasters and the rising of the sea level causing lots of problems in the world. It’s well known by the international community the fact that genetic engineering could be useful for mitigating the climate change issue since it could be specifically useful for the agricultural sector, in fact, genetic engineering appeared as a response of the agricultural sector to those affections that the climate change brought. In Agriculture, people modify the DNA of precise genomic locations in order to generate good crops and livestock that are capable of managing the consequences of climate change. Also, according to Nicholas Karavolias, in agriculture; genetic engineering is useful to improve the antibiotic stress tolerance, disease tolerance, more nutritional quality in all products; all these benefits would be specifically good for African, Asian and Centre and South American countries. Furthermore, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recommends the use of this types of engineering with biotechnical techniques in the soil administration to improve the grazing lands. Lastly, a Panel of Eminent Experts on Ethics in Food and Agriculture requested the Food and Culture Organization to stablish the status to regulations and application of biotechnologies, such as the genetic engineering, in different nations; therefore, we as a committee should take that into account.

In France, the ministry of ecological transaction oversees the regulation of the genetically modified organisms (GMO). In France, the most used method for the creation of GMO’s is transgenesis which is a method that consists in adding one or more genes to the organism in order to modify its characteristics, there is only one GMO allowed to produce in the European Union without restriction, is the maize MON810 and is the result of transgenesis too. Other methods that had been used in France are mutagenesis, cisgenesis and agroinfiltration, they are approved by the Court of Justice of the European Union in the directive 2001/18/CE of GMO’s and reviewed by the French Council of State. Lastly, since 2015 France presented in the Cop21 the ”4 for 1000” international initiative that gathers all the public and private volunteers to prove that agriculture can be essential for climate change.

Based on the situation, this delegation makes the following proposals:

* Invite all delegations and NGO’s to be part of the “4 for 1000” initiative. This would benefit the agricultural sector of develop and developing countries while also including the production of GMO’s food in the agricultural sector with the supervision and regulations that the United Nations and the Food and Agriculture Organization approves.
* Recommend to the develop countries or the ones that are capable of helping to destinate economical resources in an international forum of investigation of GMOs as a tool for addressing climate change, this would be with the objective of improving and sharing the information we have about this topic and find more viable solutions that can be reachable to all the population.
* Create a new International Guide for the creation of GMOs written by a panel of experts of the UNFCCC, FAO, WHO, UNEA and by experimented voluntaries from all nations in order to stablish a planned, safe, and sustainable international procedure in which many nations could agree with.

To conclude, this delegation is grateful for the invitation and is willing to collaborate with all the delegates in order to find viable solutions to this situation.

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