

**NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA
FIRST SESSION (2006-2008)
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

RESOLUTION NO. 62

WHEREAS globally there is an increase in food prices caused mainly by four factors, namely; increase in the price of fossil fuels, effects of Climate Change, increase in production of bio-fuels, and growing demand for food in large emerging economies;

AND WHEREAS that the increase of food prices, amounting to over 80% over the past year and a half, is having a devastating effect on the supply and affordability of food for populations in both developing and developed nations;

AND WHEREAS that various multilateral and regional institutions, including the Food and Agriculture Organisation, the World Bank, the World Food Programme and CARICOM, have already called for urgent action and heightened collaboration to tackle this global crisis;

AND WHEREAS Guyana, having recognised this crisis and its impact within the CARICOM region, is working with its sister CARICOM partners to transform Guyana into a major player in the development of Food security in the region;

AND WHEREAS the Government has established an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Food Prices tasked with monitoring this emerging situation on a constant basis and to make recommendations on action that may be needed to be taken to cushion the impact on the Guyanese population, especially the poor and vulnerable,

2.

RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly takes note of the impact of Global rising food prices on the cost of living in Guyana and supports the interventions taken by the Government and other National Stakeholders to cushion the impact of these global price increases on our population, especially for the vulnerable groups;

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly undertakes to establish a Special Select Committee to discuss the implementation of these governmental interventions that include increasing the disposable income of ordinary Guyanese; subsidizing the cost of accessing utility services, implementing the Ministry of Agriculture's GROW MORE campaign and its concomitant budgetary interventions; zero-rating of all essential food items, diesel and agricultural inputs; monitoring exports of some essential agricultural commodities to ensure adequate local supply and monitoring of prices and supply of various food commodities; and assistance to single-headed households;

ALSO RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly be provided with the deliberations of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Food Prices and the Special Select Committee on a quarterly basis, set up by Cabinet to review the impact of rising food prices on Guyanese and make recommendations intended to cushion the impact;

3.

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly recognizes that the situation requires national action, and sustained efforts and engagement with critical sectors and groups to confront this challenge locally and regionally and that the Multi-Stakeholder Forum should deliberate on this issue at an appropriate time.

Passed by the National Assembly on Tuesday, 1st July, 2008.


.....
S.E. ISAACS

Clerk of the National Assembly

**S. E. ISAACS
CLERK OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**