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## **Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

### **Report of the Second Committee\***

*Rapporteur:* Ms. Chantal Uwizera (Rwanda)

## **I. Introduction**

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 20 (see A/70/472, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 32nd and 35th meetings, on 19 November and 10 December 2015. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.<sup>1</sup>

## **II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/70/L.31 and A/C.2/70/L.57**

2. At the 32nd meeting, on 19 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda" (A/C.2/70/L.31).

\* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 10 parts, under the symbols A/70/472, A/70/472/Add.1, A/70/472/Add.2, A/70/472/Add.3, A/70/472/Add.4, A/70/472/Add.5, A/70/472/Add.6, A/70/472/Add.7, A/70/472/Add.8 and A/70/472/Add.9.

<sup>1</sup> A/C.2/70/SR.32 and A/C.2/70/SR.35.



3. At its 35th meeting, on 10 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development” (A/C.2/70/L.57), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Reinhard Krapp (Germany), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.31.
4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.57 had no programme budget implications.
5. Also at the same meeting, the facilitator of the draft resolution (Brazil) made a statement and orally corrected operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.57.<sup>2</sup>
6. Also at its 35th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.57, as orally corrected (see para. 9).
7. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, as orally corrected, a statement was made by the representative of the European Union.
8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.57, as orally corrected, draft resolution A/C.2/70/L.31 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

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<sup>2</sup> See A/C.2/70/SR.35.

### III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### **Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 56/226 of 24 December 2001, 57/253 and 57/270 A of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 64/236 of 24 December 2009, 65/152 of 20 December 2010, 66/197 of 22 December 2011, 66/288 of 27 July 2012, 67/203 of 21 December 2012, 68/210 of 20 December 2013, 68/309 of 10 September 2014, 68/310 of 15 September 2014, 69/108 of 8 December 2014 and 69/214 of 19 December 2014 and all other relevant resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

*Recalling* its resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and 68/1 of 20 September 2013 on the review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

*Recalling also* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>1</sup> Agenda 21,<sup>2</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>3</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>4</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)<sup>5</sup> and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>6</sup> as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>7</sup> the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,<sup>8</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>9</sup> the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>10</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action<sup>11</sup> and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,<sup>12</sup>

*Recalling further* the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (Istanbul Programme of Action),<sup>13</sup>

*Recalling* the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024<sup>14</sup> and the Vienna Declaration,<sup>15</sup>

*Recalling also* the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>16</sup>

*Reaffirming* the commitment to implementing Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development

<sup>1</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution S-19/2, annex.

<sup>4</sup> *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>6</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>7</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>8</sup> Resolution 63/239, annex.

<sup>9</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>10</sup> Resolution S-21/2, annex.

<sup>11</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>12</sup> Resolution 68/6.

<sup>13</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

<sup>14</sup> Resolution 69/137, annex II.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, annex I.

<sup>16</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals, and reaffirming also other internationally agreed goals in the economic, social and environmental fields since 1992, as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals, including those contained in Agenda 21, the relevant outcomes of United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>17</sup>

*Reaffirming* the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions, and reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,

*Recognizing* that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

*Reaffirming* the importance of freedom, peace and security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development and the right to an adequate standard of living, as well as the right to food, the rule of law, gender equality and women's empowerment, and the overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development,

*Reaffirming also* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,<sup>18</sup> adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

*Stressing* the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",<sup>6</sup> and urges its full implementation;

2. *Welcomes* the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the resulting processes for the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and for the realization of sustainable development;

3. *Recognizes* in this regard that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development builds upon elements from the outcome document of the United

<sup>17</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>18</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”, inter alia: the establishment of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the format and organizational arrangements of which were later established in resolution 67/290; a strengthened Economic and Social Council, as later defined in resolution 68/1; the process that led to the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, as later defined in resolutions 68/309 and 70/1; the strengthening of the science-policy interface, including in the form of a global sustainable development report; and the process that led to the adoption of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;<sup>19</sup>

5. *Urges* the speedy and effective implementation and the effective follow-up and review of the sustainable development priorities for small island developing States identified in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway<sup>16</sup> and set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and reaffirms that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All,<sup>20</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to provide, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders, an updated report on the progress of the activities of the Decade, relevant activities within the United Nations system and the long-term institutional administrative and financial arrangements and accountability arrangements to Member States and other stakeholders of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative, for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session;

7. *Acknowledges* the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development, recognizes that follow-up and review at the regional and subregional levels can, as appropriate, provide useful opportunities for peer learning, including through voluntary reviews, the sharing of best practices and discussion on shared targets, and notes that inclusive regional processes will draw on national-level reviews and contribute to follow-up and review at the global level, including at the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 5 of its resolution 67/203, in which it decided to review the arrangement to designate the Economic and Social Council as the ad interim Member State body to receive reports from the board and the secretariat of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns, as elaborated in the 10-year framework of programmes,<sup>21</sup> as well as its resolutions 68/210 and 69/214 in this regard, in order to reach a permanent arrangement, also recalls the interactive discussions on sustainable consumption and production at the July 2014 and July 2015 meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, held under the auspices of the Council, and affirms that due consideration should continue to be given to sustainable consumption and

<sup>19</sup> A/70/283.

<sup>20</sup> A/70/422.

<sup>21</sup> A/CONF.216/5, annex.

production at the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development held under the auspices of the Council;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system,<sup>22</sup> reiterates the call of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for the further mainstreaming of the three dimensions throughout the United Nations system, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made, including for the consideration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

10. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development” in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session, unless otherwise agreed in the discussions on the revitalization of the Second Committee.

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<sup>22</sup> A/70/75-E/2015/55.