

Resolutions and Decisions of the Economic and Social Council

2015 session

New York and Geneva, 21 July 2014 – 23 July 2015

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NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council are identified as follows:

Resolutions

Until 1977 (up to and including the resumed sixty-third session), the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council were numbered consecutively and were identified by an arabic numeral followed by an indication of the session in parentheses (for example: resolution 1733 (LIV), resolution 1915 (ORG-75), resolution 2046 (S-III), adopted at the fifty-fourth session, the organizational session for 1975 and the third special session, respectively). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter (for example: resolution 1926 B (LVIII), resolutions 1954 A to D (LIX)). The last resolution so numbered is resolution 2130 (LXIII), of 14 December 1977.

Since 1978, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of Council documents, the resolutions have been numbered on a yearly basis and identified by two arabic numerals separated by an oblique stroke, the first numeral indicating the year, the second the number of the resolution in the annual series (for example: resolution 1990/47).

Decisions

Until 1973 (up to and including the resumed fifty-fifth session), the decisions of the Council were not numbered. From 1974 to 1977 (up to and including the resumed sixty-third session), the decisions were numbered consecutively and were identified by an arabic numeral followed by an indication of the session in parentheses (for example: decision 64 (ORG-75), decision 78 (LVIII), adopted at the organizational session for 1975 and the fifty-eighth session, respectively). The last decision so numbered is decision 293 (LXIII), of 2 December 1977.

Since 1978, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of Council documents, the decisions have been numbered on a yearly basis and identified by two arabic numerals separated by an oblique stroke, the first numeral indicating the year, the second the number of the decision in the annual series (for example: decision 1990/224).

E/2015/99

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Agenda of the 2015 session

The 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council was held in New York on 21 and 22 July, 18 November and 5, 8 and 15 December 2014; and 13 January, 23 to 25 February, 4 March, 30 March to 1 April, 8 to 10 and 20 to 22 April, 15 May, 8 to 10 and 29 June, 6 to 10 and 20 to 23 July 2015, and in Geneva on 17 to 19 June 2015.

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 21 July 2014, the Council adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments.
5. High-level segment:
 - (a) Ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;
 - (b) High-level policy dialogue with international financial and trade institutions;
 - (c) Annual ministerial review;
 - (d) Thematic discussion.
6. High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.
7. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:
 - (a) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly and the Council;
 - (b) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and the World Food Programme;
 - (c) South-South cooperation for development.
8. Integration segment.
9. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.
10. The role of the United Nations system in implementing the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council.
11. Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits:
 - (a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development;
 - (b) Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020.
12. Coordination, programme and other questions:
 - (a) Reports of coordination bodies;
 - (b) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;
 - (c) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system;
 - (d) Long-term programme of support for Haiti;
 - (e) African countries emerging from conflict;
 - (f) Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

- (g) Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;
- (h) Calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields.
- 13. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions [50/227](#), [52/12 B](#), [57/270 B](#), [60/265](#), [61/16](#), [67/290](#) and [68/1](#).
- 14. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.
- 15. Regional cooperation.
- 16. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.
- 17. Non-governmental organizations.
- 18. Economic and environmental questions:
 - (a) Sustainable development;
 - (b) Science and technology for development;
 - (c) Statistics;
 - (d) Human settlements;
 - (e) Environment;
 - (f) Population and development;
 - (g) Public administration and development;
 - (h) International cooperation in tax matters;
 - (i) Cartography;
 - (j) Women and development;
 - (k) United Nations Forum on Forests;
 - (l) Transport of dangerous goods;
 - (m) Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions.
- 19. Social and human rights questions:
 - (a) Advancement of women;
 - (b) Social development;
 - (c) Crime prevention and criminal justice;
 - (d) Narcotic drugs;
 - (e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
 - (f) Comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;
 - (g) Human rights;
 - (h) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
- 20. United Nations research and training institutes.

Checklist of resolutions and decisions

Resolutions

<i>Resolution number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Page</i>
2015/1	Membership of the Economic and Social Council in the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission (E/2015/L.4)	2	4 March 2015	9
2015/2	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (E/2015/L.5)	12 (g)	8 April 2015	9
2015/3	Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (E/2015/26 and Corr.1)	19 (b)	8 June 2015	11
2015/4	Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the post-2015 development agenda (E/2015/26 and Corr.1)	19 (b)	8 June 2015	19
2015/5	Modalities for the third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002 (E/2015/26 and Corr.1)	19 (b)	8 June 2015	22
2015/6	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/2015/27)	19 (a)	8 June 2015	23
2015/7	Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (E/2015/66)	18 (l)	8 June 2015	27
2015/8	United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (E/2015/L.14)	12 (f)	9 June 2015	31
2015/9	United Nations System Staff College in Turin, Italy (E/2015/L.10)	20	9 June 2015	32
2015/10	2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme (E/2015/24)	18 (c)	10 June 2015	32
2015/11	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its seventeenth session (E/2015/L.13)	18 (a)	10 June 2015	34
2015/12	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (E/2015/L.11 and E/2015/SR.36)	12 (c)	10 June 2015	35
2015/13	Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women (E/2015/27 and E/2015/SR.36)	19 (a)	10 June 2015	39
2015/14	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations (E/2015/L.15)	9	19 June 2015	42
2015/15	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (E/2015/L.16)	7	29 June 2015	46
2015/16	Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations (E/2015/L.24 and E/2015/SR.50)	14	20 July 2015	55
2015/17	Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (E/2015/L.22 and E/2015/SR.50)	16	20 July 2015	58
2015/18	Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti (E/2015/L.18/Rev.1)	12 (d)	21 July 2015	64

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<i>Resolution number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Page</i>
2015/19	Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (E/2015/30)	19 (c)	21 July 2015	65
2015/20	United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Mandela Rules) (E/2015/30)	19 (c)	21 July 2015	76
2015/21	Taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls (E/2015/30)	19 (c)	21 July 2015	102
2015/22	Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism (E/2015/30)	19 (c)	21 July 2015	106
2015/23	Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (E/2015/30)	19 (c)	21 July 2015	109
2015/24	Improving the quality and availability of statistics on crime and criminal justice for policy development (E/2015/30)	19 (c)	21 July 2015	111
2015/25	Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (E/2015/28)	19 (d)	21 July 2015	113
2015/26	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (E/2015/31)	18 (b)	22 July 2015	115
2015/27	Science, technology and innovation for development (E/2015/31)	18 (b)	22 July 2015	122
2015/28	Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its fourteenth session (E/2015/44)	18 (g)	22 July 2015	125
2015/29	Admission of Norway to membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (E/2015/15/Add.1)	15	22 July 2015	128
2015/30	Restructuring the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to be fit for the evolving post-2015 development agenda (E/2015/15/Add.2)	15	22 July 2015	128
2015/31	Establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (E/2015/15/Add.2)	15	22 July 2015	136
2015/32	Admission of Mauritania to membership in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (E/2015/15/Add.2)	15	22 July 2015	142
2015/33	International arrangement on forests beyond 2015 (E/2015/42 and Corr.1)	18 (k)	22 July 2015	142
2015/34	Human settlements (E/2015/L.17 and E/2015/SR.55)	18 (d)	22 July 2015	151
2015/35	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 (E/2015/L.23 and E/2015/SR.56)	11 (b)	23 July 2015	152

Decisions

<i>Decision number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Page</i>
2015/200	Election of a Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council for 2015–2016 (E/2015/SR.7)	1	13 January 2015	157

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<i>Decision number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Page</i>
2015/201	Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments to subsidiary and related bodies of the Economic and Social Council			
	Decision A (E/2015/SR.14)	4	4 March 2015	157
	Decision B (E/2015/SR.21)	4	8 April 2015	157
	Decision C (E/2015/SR.24)	4	10 April 2015	161
	Decision D (E/2015/SR.30)	4	15 May 2015	162
2015/202	Provisional agenda for the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council (E/2015/1)	2	21 July 2014	162
2015/203	Themes for the 2015 and 2016 sessions of the Economic and Social Council (E/2014/L.24)	2	21 July 2014	162
2015/204	Theme for the integration segment of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council (E/2014/L.23)	2	21 July 2014	163
2015/205	Working arrangements for the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council (E/2015/L.1/Rev.1 and E/2015/SR.2)	2	22 July 2014	163
2015/206	2015 thematic discussion of the Economic and Social Council (E/2015/L.2 and E/2014/SR.53)	2	18 November 2014	163
2015/207	Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations (E/2015/32 (Part I))	17	8 April 2015	164
2015/208	Withdrawal of consultative status of non-governmental organizations (E/2015/32 (Part I))	17	8 April 2015	170
2015/209	Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2015 regular session (E/2015/32 (Part I))	17	8 April 2015	170
2015/210	Theme for the humanitarian affairs segment of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council (E/2015/L.6)	2	15 May 2015	171
2015/211	Economic and Social Council event to discuss the transition from relief to development (E/2015/L.7)	2	15 May 2015	171
2015/212	Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-fourth session (E/2015/26 and Corr.1)	19 (b)	8 June 2015	171
2015/213	Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/2015/26 and Corr.1)	19 (b)	8 June 2015	172
2015/214	Venue and dates of and provisional agenda for the eleventh session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (E/2015/L.12)	18 (h)	9 June 2015	172
2015/215	Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with United Nations research and training institutes (E/2015/SR.33)	20	9 June 2015	173
2015/216	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session and provisional agenda for and dates of its forty-seventh session (E/2015/24)	18 (c)	10 June 2015	174
2015/217	Requests from non-governmental organizations to be heard by the Economic and Social Council (E/2015/80)	2	10 June 2015	177

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2015/218	Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fifty-ninth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its sixtieth session (E/2015/27)	19 (a)	10 June 2015	177
2015/219	Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the World Food Programme (E/2014/34/Rev.1 , E/2014/35 , E/2015/36 , E/2015/47 and E/2015/SR.41)	7 (b)	29 June 2015	179
2015/220	Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (E/2015/SR.50)	11	20 July 2015	179
2015/221	Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (E/2015/SR.50)	14	20 July 2015	179
2015/222	Application of the non-governmental organization Freedom Now for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (E/2015/L.21 and E/2015/SR.51)	17	20 July 2015	179
2015/223	Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations (E/2015/32 (Part II) and E/2015/SR.51)	17	20 July 2015	180
2015/224	Withdrawal of consultative status of the non-governmental organization African Technical Association (E/2015/32 (Part II))	17	20 July 2015	187
2015/225	Withdrawal of consultative status of the non-governmental organization African Technology Development Link (E/2015/32 (Part II))	17	20 July 2015	187
2015/226	Suspension of consultative status of non-governmental organizations with outstanding quadrennial reports, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/4 (E/2015/32 (Part II))	17	20 July 2015	187
2015/227	Reinstatement of consultative status of non-governmental organizations that submitted outstanding quadrennial reports, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/4 (E/2015/32 (Part II))	17	20 July 2015	190
2015/228	Withdrawal of consultative status of non-governmental organizations in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/4 (E/2015/32 (Part II))	17	20 July 2015	191
2015/229	Dates of and provisional agenda for the 2016 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/2015/32 (Part II))	17	20 July 2015	193
2015/230	Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2015 resumed session (E/2015/32 (Part II))	17	20 July 2015	194
2015/231	African countries emerging from conflict (E/2015/L.20)	12 (e)	21 July 2015	194

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2015/232	Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the reports of coordination bodies and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017 (E/2015/SR.52)	12 (a) and (b)	21 July 2015	194
2015/233	Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-third session (E/2014/30/Add.1)	19 (c)	21 July 2015	194
2015/234	Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/2015/30 and E/2015/28)	19 (c) and (d)	21 July 2015	194
2015/235	Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its twenty-fourth session and provisional agenda for its twenty-fifth session (E/2015/30)	19 (c)	21 July 2015	195
2015/236	Appointment of a member of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (E/2015/30)	19 (c)	21 July 2015	196
2015/237	Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-seventh session (E/2014/28/Add.1)	19 (d)	21 July 2015	197
2015/238	Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-eighth session and provisional agenda for its fifty-ninth session (E/2015/28)	19 (d)	21 July 2015	197
2015/239	Report of the International Narcotics Control Board (E/2015/28)	19 (d)	21 July 2015	198
2015/240	Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with crime prevention and criminal justice, and narcotic drugs (E/2015/SR.53)	19 (c) and (d)	21 July 2015	198
2015/241	Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the advancement of women and human rights (E/2015/SR.53)	19 (a) and (g)	21 July 2015	199
2015/242	Extension of the mandate of the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (E/2015/31)	18 (b)	22 July 2015	199
2015/243	Participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (E/2015/31)	18 (b)	22 July 2015	199
2015/244	Participation of academic and technical entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (E/2015/31)	18 (b)	22 July 2015	200
2015/245	Participation of business sector entities, including the private sector, in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (E/2015/31)	18 (b)	22 July 2015	200
2015/246	Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eighteenth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its nineteenth session (E/2015/31)	18 (b)	22 July 2015	200
2015/247	Venue and dates of and provisional agenda for the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (E/2015/44)	18 (g)	22 July 2015	201

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2015/248	International expert group meeting on the theme “Indigenous languages: preservation and revitalization (articles 13, 14 and 16 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)” (E/2015/43)	19 (h)	22 July 2015	202
2015/249	Venue and dates of the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (E/2015/43)	19 (h)	22 July 2015	202
2015/250	Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its fourteenth session and provisional agenda for its fifteenth session (E/2015/43)	19 (h)	22 July 2015	202
2015/251	Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with regional cooperation (E/2015/SR.54)	15	22 July 2015	203
2015/252	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development (E/2015/25)	18 (f)	22 July 2015	203
2015/253	Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-eighth session and provisional agenda for its forty-ninth session (E/2015/25)	18 (f)	22 July 2015	204
2015/254	Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests on the international arrangement on “The forests we want: beyond 2015” (E/2015/42 and Corr.1)	18 (k)	22 July 2015	205
2015/255	Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its eleventh session (E/2015/42 and Corr.1)	18 (k)	22 July 2015	207
2015/256	Provisional calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for 2016 and 2017 (E/2015/L.8)	12 (h)	22 July 2015	208
2015/257	Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (E/2015/SR.56)	18 (h)	23 July 2015	208

Resolutions

2015/1. Membership of the Economic and Social Council in the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [60/180](#) of 20 December 2005 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005) of 20 December 2005, concurrently establishing the Peacebuilding Commission,

Recalling also, in particular, paragraphs 12 (b), 13 and 17 of General Assembly resolution [60/180](#) and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005), establishing the institutional relationship between the Economic and Social Council and the Peacebuilding Commission,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution [63/145](#) of 18 December 2008, in which the Assembly, inter alia, invited other bodies with members elected to the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission to adjust the term of office of their respective members so that the term of office of all members of the Organizational Committee could start on 1 January instead of 23 June,

Recalling its resolutions 2006/3 of 8 May 2006, 2008/38 of 19 December 2008, 2010/36 of 14 December 2010 and 2012/37 of 20 December 2012 on the membership of the Economic and Social Council in the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission,

Recognizing the important role to be performed by the Peacebuilding Commission towards recovery, reintegration and reconstruction in countries emerging from conflict, particularly in Africa,

Recalling that due consideration is to be given to countries that have experienced post-conflict recovery in the composition of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission,

1. *Decides* that it shall elect to the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission one State member of the Economic and Social Council from each of the five regional groups, namely, African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States, and two additional States members of the Council;

2. *Also decides* that the established practice of the Council regarding members elected to its subsidiary bodies who are not able to complete their term of office shall apply to members elected to the Organizational Committee by the Council.

*14th plenary meeting
4 March 2015*

2015/2. Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2013/11 of 22 July 2013,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS,¹

Underscoring the importance of the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS, adopted at the high-level meeting on HIV and AIDS of the General Assembly on 10 June 2011,² as a key reference for the 2011–2015 Strategy: Getting to Zero of the Joint Programme, as well as the upcoming 2016–2021 updated and extended strategy,

Recalling the 2011–2015 Strategy: Getting to Zero,

¹ E/2015/8.

² General Assembly resolution [65/277](#), annex.

Welcoming the recent reports of the Joint Programme,³ and taking note of new data and analyses contained therein, which provide compelling evidence for accelerated investment and action in the next five years, based on regional variations, to enable countries to end the HIV and AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030,

Also welcoming the reaffirmation by the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint Programme of the vision of zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths and, in the light of the new data and analyses, its request for the Joint Programme to undertake a multi-stakeholder consultative process to update and extend the 2011–2015 Strategy: Getting to Zero and its targets to fast-track action and investment through the period from 2016 to 2021 and to align it with General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) of 21 December 2012 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development,

Noting with appreciation the continued reporting on progress by Member States, providing the most comprehensive overview to date of the HIV and AIDS response at the country level,

Welcoming the progress made in preventing new HIV infections and increasing access to HIV treatment,

Expressing deep concern that, despite the progress made, critical challenges remain, namely, new infections in many countries and regions are on the rise, HIV prevention efforts are inadequately resourced and insufficiently implemented, and access to HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care and support in most of the low- and middle-income countries is yet to be brought to scale,

Expressing particular concern that more than 50 per cent of people living with HIV do not know their HIV status, and stressing that progress in this area is critical to the achievement of the targets of 90 per cent of all people living with HIV knowing their HIV status, 90 per cent of all people with diagnosed HIV infection receiving sustained antiretroviral therapy and 90 per cent of all people receiving antiretroviral therapy having viral suppression by 2020,

Recognizing the value of lessons learned from the multisectoral response to HIV and AIDS in addressing other complex health and development challenges, and recognizing also that progress in the AIDS response has led to progress on broader development outcomes,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;¹
2. *Urges* the Joint Programme to continue to support the full and effective implementation of the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS;²
3. *Stresses* the importance of the programmatic coherence of the Joint Programme to continue to leverage the comparative advantages of diverse United Nations bodies and partners in strengthening a multisectoral response to HIV and AIDS;
4. *Recognizes* that the HIV and AIDS epidemic is not over and that ending the epidemic as a public health threat by 2030 requires a fast-track response during the unprecedented window of opportunity provided by the next five years;
5. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system, civil society, local communities, families, the private sector and other partners to scale up efforts on an urgent basis to achieve the goals and targets contained in the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS and to fulfil the unmet Millennium Development Goals that are relevant to HIV and AIDS, in particular Goal 6, including through sharing best practices and strengthening the capacities of developing countries;
6. *Recognizes* that in order to ensure that no one is left behind, responses and resources need to be focused on evidence-based interventions and on populations and locations where they will have the greatest impact, in accordance with specific national and regional epidemiological patterns;
7. *Underscores* that the integration of the HIV and AIDS response with the health system improves outcomes and, at the same time, contributes to the strengthening of health systems, and in that regard encourages the sharing of best practices, including through country case studies;

³ *The Gap Report, Fast-track: Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030 and UNAIDS OUTLOOK: The Cities Report.*

8. *Reaffirms* its resolution 2013/11, and in particular the value of the lessons learned from the global AIDS response for the post-2015 development agenda, including those learned from the unique approach of the Joint Programme, and also reaffirms that the Joint Programme offers the United Nations system a useful example, to be considered, as appropriate, of enhanced strategic coherence, coordination, results-based focus, inclusive governance and country-level impact, based on national contexts and priorities;

9. *Looks forward* to the high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS to be convened by the General Assembly in 2016, and underlines the important opportunity provided by this meeting to further fast-track the response and to advance the ambitious commitment to end the HIV and AIDS epidemic as a public health threat by 2030;

10. *Notes* the ongoing need to close the AIDS resource gap, in line with the principles of shared responsibility and global solidarity, encourages countries to scale up domestic and international funding for the response, and emphasizes that action is needed to ensure political, programmatic and financial accountability at all levels;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2017, a report prepared by the Executive Director of the Joint Programme in collaboration with its co-sponsors and other relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, on progress made in implementing a coordinated response by the United Nations system to the HIV and AIDS epidemic.

*22nd plenary meeting
8 April 2015*

2015/3. Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,⁴ and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,⁵ reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000⁶ and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁷ and recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,⁸ the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002,⁹ General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,¹⁰

Recognizing the commitments made with regard to meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit⁷ and reaffirmed in the political declaration on Africa's development needs adopted at the high-level meeting held at United Nations Headquarters on 22 September 2008,¹¹ and noting the conclusions of the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, held in Ouagadougou on 8 and 9 September 2004, including relevant decisions of African Union summits related to the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling the first session of the African Union Conference of Ministers in charge of Social Development, held in Windhoek from 27 to 31 October 2008, the second session of the Conference of Ministers, held in Khartoum

⁴ *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

⁵ General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

⁶ General Assembly resolution 55/2.

⁷ General Assembly resolution 60/1.

⁸ General Assembly resolution 65/1.

⁹ General Assembly resolution 57/2.

¹⁰ General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

¹¹ General Assembly resolution 63/1.

from 21 to 25 November 2010 on the theme “Strengthening social policy action towards social inclusion”, and the third session of the Conference of Ministers, held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 November 2012, welcoming the fourth session of the Conference of Ministers, held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 May 2014 on the theme “Strengthening the African family for inclusive development in Africa”, recalling in this regard the African Common Position on Social Integration and the Social Policy Framework for Africa, both of which were endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in February 2009, as well as the African Common Position on Good Practices in Family Policy Development and Implementation, for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014), and the renewed Continental Plan of Action on the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2010–2019), which were endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in January 2013, and taking note of the African Common Position on the Human Rights of Older Persons in Africa,

Noting the full integration of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development¹² into the structures and processes of the African Union,

Noting with appreciation the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa adopted by the African Union, which calls for the creation of an enabling environment for adequate investments and the adoption of the sector reforms needed to produce the expected results aimed at promoting economic and social development and reducing poverty in the continent through the implementation of integrated regional infrastructure networks,

Welcoming the ministerial statements on the themes “Unleashing Africa’s potential as a pole of global growth”, “Industrialization for an emerging Africa”, and “Industrialization for inclusive and transformative development in Africa”, adopted by the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development at their fifth, sixth and seventh joint meetings, held in Addis Ababa on 26 and 27 March 2012, in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire, on 25 and 26 March 2013, and in Abuja on 29 and 30 March 2014, respectively, and the consensus statement on the theme “Governing and harnessing natural resources for Africa’s development” adopted at the eighth African Development Forum, held in Addis Ababa from 23 to 25 October 2012,

Remaining concerned that, while Africa continues to make steady progress towards attainment of the targets of the Millennium Development Goals, this progress is, however, not enough for all countries to attain all of the Goals by 2015, and in this regard emphasizing that concerted efforts and continued support are required to fulfil the commitments to address the special needs of Africa,

Noting with concern the continued prevalence of child, early and forced marriage, and welcoming in this regard the Africa-wide campaign to end child marriage in Africa launched at the Conference of Ministers of Social Development, held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 May 2014,

Expressing concern that attainment of the social development objectives may be hindered by the ongoing adverse impacts of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and challenges posed by climate change,

Recognizing that, while global growth is returning, there is a need to further strengthen the recovery, which is still uneven, stressing the urgent need for full recovery and sustained and accelerated growth, which translates into new employment opportunities, secure incomes and improved livelihoods, and reaffirming the need to continue to support the special needs of Africa and to take action to mitigate the multidimensional impacts of the crisis on the continent,

Stressing that addressing Africa’s special development needs should be given due attention in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda,

Expressing grave concern at the recent outbreak of the Ebola virus disease in West Africa and its unprecedented nature and scope,

Expressing deep concern about the potential reversal of the gains made in recent years by the three countries most affected by the Ebola outbreak, in the areas of peacebuilding, political stability and the reconstruction of socioeconomic infrastructure,

¹² A/57/304, annex.

Noting that Africa is abundantly endowed with natural resources, including many industrial minerals and agricultural resources that are exported mainly in primary form, and that the exploitation of the natural resources sector in Africa has for many years attracted foreign direct investment in capital-intensive enclave sectors that has the potential, when paired with appropriate policies, including employment-intensive policies, to spur structural transformation, create employment, contribute to poverty eradication and reduce inequality,

Emphasizing that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encouraging African countries, with the assistance of their development partners, to increase and coordinate effectively their support for enhancing the capacities of these institutions and to promote regional cooperation and social and economic integration in Africa,

Recognizing the regional coordination mechanism of United Nations agencies and organizations working in Africa in support of the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa's Development Programme of Action, as well as the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership as a technical body of the African Union, which aims to ensure coordination and coherence in the delivery of support for greater effectiveness and impact through increased joint programming and joint implementation of activities,

Noting the decision of the General Assembly to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa,¹³ enabling it to effectively fulfil its mandate, including by monitoring and reporting on progress related to meeting the special needs of Africa,

Recognizing that capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and best practices are essential for the successful implementation of the New Partnership, and recognizing also the need for continued support from the international community, partners of the New Partnership and United Nations agencies to continue to work towards sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development on the African continent, and for greater synergy and effective coordination between the New Partnership and the international initiatives related to Africa, and emphasizing the importance of the close collaboration of the African Union Commission and the United Nations as the co-organizers of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development,

Recognizing also that investments in people, especially their social protection, health and education, are essential to enhancing agricultural productivity and performance, and thereby key to growth and poverty reduction, through increasing decent job creation and employability opportunities, especially for women and youth, improving food security and nutrition and building resilience,

Recognizing further that the lack of access to drinking water and proper sanitation contributes to slow progress in reducing Africa's disease burden, particularly among the poorest populations, in both rural and urban areas, and conscious of the impact of the lack of sanitation on people's health, poverty reduction efforts, economic and social development and the environment, in particular water resources,

Noting with appreciation that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and bilateral donors have provided substantial debt relief to 35 countries that have reached the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, which has considerably reduced their debt vulnerability and enabled them to increase their investments in social services,

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized and that the development efforts of such countries need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,¹⁴

Noting other initiatives, such as the first high-level meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation on the theme "Building towards an inclusive post-2015 development agenda", held in Mexico City on 15 and 16 April 2014,

¹³ See General Assembly resolution 68/247 A, sect. VIII.

¹⁴ See *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.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁵
2. *Welcomes* the progress made by African Governments in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development¹² to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encouraging them, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;
3. *Also welcomes* the good progress that has been made in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, as reflected in particular by the number of countries that have signed up to participate in the Mechanism, the completion of the peer review process in some countries, the progress in implementing the recommendations of those reviews in those countries and the completion of the annual progress reports and self-assessment processes, the hosting of country support missions and the launching of national preparatory processes for the peer review in others, and urges African States that have not yet done so to join the Mechanism as a matter of priority and to strengthen the peer review process so as to ensure its efficient performance;
4. *Further welcomes* the adoption of Agenda 2063 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fourth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2015, as the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities;
5. *Welcomes* the decision on the organization of an extraordinary summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union to assess the progress in implementation of the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment and Poverty Alleviation, to be organized by the African Union;
6. *Recognizes* the progress that has been made in the implementation of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, particularly through the mechanism of the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative, under which impressive progress has been recorded in the conception of many critical infrastructure projects on the continent;
7. *Stresses* that industrialization is a critical engine of economic and social development, and emphasizes the need to accelerate Africa's industrialization by the adoption and implementation of specific measures and actions at the national, regional and continental levels and with the support of and in collaboration with development partners and the international community;
8. *Also stresses* the importance of taking measures to promote the dynamic diversification of African economies through transforming African economies from resource dependence, increasing local processing of and value addition to natural resources in order to expand the domestic economy and increase revenue, and developing new industries in order to transform lives and create opportunities for more and better jobs;
9. *Welcomes* the efforts made by African countries and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women and girls in the implementation of the New Partnership, including the implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa;
10. *Also welcomes* the decision taken by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-third ordinary session, held in Malabo on 26 and 27 June 2014, to proclaim 2015 the Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063;
11. *Stresses* the importance of improving maternal and child health, in this regard welcomes the declaration of the African Union summit on maternal, infant and child health and development, held in Kampala from 19 to 27 July 2010, and acknowledges the ongoing activities of the Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa;
12. *Encourages* African countries to prioritize investments in building the institutional capacity of health systems, reduce health inequities within and across countries, progressively achieve universal health coverage, strengthen global health security and curb the outbreak of major diseases;

¹⁵ E/CN.5/2015/2.

13. *Invites* development partners to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to strengthen national health systems, including by providing skilled health personnel, reliable health information and data, research infrastructure and laboratory capacity, and to expand surveillance systems in the health sector, including support for the efforts to prevent, protect against and combat outbreaks of diseases, including of neglected tropical diseases, and in this context reiterates its support for the Kampala Declaration and Agenda for Global Action and follow-up conferences to respond to the serious health workforce crisis in Africa;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the debt relief offered by international financial institutions to the countries most affected by the Ebola crisis, and invites consideration of further measures by partner countries to facilitate long-term debt management sustainability, including by enhancing debt management capabilities in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone and by considering additional debt relief on a case-by-case basis in order to alleviate the impact of the crisis on the economies of these countries and to assist in their economic recovery and development;

15. *Encourages* Member States to intensify global partnerships for development as a means to achieve and sustain the targets of the Millennium Development Goals on water and sanitation;

16. *Also encourages* Member States to expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries, particularly African countries, in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies;

17. *Emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development, including measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship and to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

18. *Also emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society, including non-governmental and community-based organizations, and the private sector are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

19. *Further emphasizes* that the increasingly unacceptable high levels of poverty, inequality and social exclusion faced by most African countries require a comprehensive approach to the development and implementation of social and economic policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty, to promote economic activity, growth and sustainable development in order to ensure employment creation and decent work for all, to promote education, health and social protection and to enhance equality, social inclusion, political stability, democracy and good governance at all levels and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

20. *Emphasizes* that identifying and removing barriers to opportunity, as well as ensuring access to basic social protection and social services, are necessary to break the cycle of poverty, inequality and social exclusion;

21. *Encourages* African countries to continue to prioritize structural transformation, modernize smallholder agriculture, add value to primary commodities, improve public and private institutions of economic and political governance and invest in major public infrastructure projects and in education and health in order to promote inclusive growth, generate full and productive employment and decent work for all and reduce poverty;

22. *Emphasizes* that economic development, including employment-intensive resource-based industrial development, infrastructural development and structural transformation, in particular in the rural economy, based on pragmatic and targeted policies to enhance productive capacities in Africa that are consistent with national development priorities and international commitments, can generate employment and income for all African men and women, including the poor, and therefore be an engine for poverty eradication and for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

23. *Underlines* the fact that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of allocating 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 and the target of allocating between 0.15 and 0.20 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to developing countries;

24. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results, inclusive development partnerships and transparency and mutual accountability;

25. *Recognizes* that, while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal;

26. *Also recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation, and encourages the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of African countries, including through trilateral cooperation;

27. *Welcomes* the various important initiatives undertaken by Africa's development partners in recent years, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa through ensuring the effective implementation of existing commitments, including through the African Union/New Partnership for Africa's Development African Action Plan 2010–2015: Advancing Regional and Continental Integration in Africa, which remains at the centre of the continent's engagement with partners;

28. *Encourages* African countries to intensify their efforts to strengthen national statistical capacity in order to produce reliable and timely statistics and indicators for the monitoring of national development policies and strategies and the implementation of commitments and the achievement of all development goals at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard urges donor countries and organizations and the international and regional statistical communities to support African countries in strengthening statistical capacity in support of development;

29. *Urges* continuous support for measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, with special emphasis on the Millennium Development Goals related to poverty and hunger, health, education, the empowerment of women and gender equality, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance, increased foreign direct investment and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, reduced cost of sending remittances through official channels, the empowerment of women in all aspects, including economic and political aspects, the promotion of social protection systems and the conclusion of the Doha round of negotiations of the World Trade Organization;

30. *Underlines* the importance for African Governments to build the productive capacity of agriculture, as a top priority, in order to increase rural incomes and ensure access to food for net food buyers, and stresses that greater efforts should be made to promote and implement sustainable agriculture, increase access for smallholder farmers, in particular women, to necessary agricultural resources, including productive assets, and improve access to infrastructure, information and markets, and that, furthermore, efforts should be made to promote small and medium-sized enterprises that contribute to job growth and increase incomes along the agricultural value stream;

31. *Urges* African Governments, within the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, to expand investment financing to agriculture to at least 10 per cent of the annual budget of the national public sector while at the same time ensuring necessary action in policy and institutional reforms for enhanced performance of the agriculture industry and systems;

32. *Recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners that are supporting agriculture, food security and nutrition in Africa to align their efforts more specifically towards supporting the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, using the Programme's investment plans for alignment of external funding, and in this regard takes note of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security;¹⁶

33. *Also recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) has fallen short of expectations, and welcomes the proclamation of the Second Decade (2008–2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution [62/205](#) of

¹⁶ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

34. *Urges* African countries to pay close attention to inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth capable of being employment-intensive, including through employment-intensive investment programmes, which should be aimed at reducing inequalities, increasing employment and improving real per capita incomes in both rural and urban areas;

35. *Emphasizes* the need, in particular for African countries, to enhance capacity-building for sustainable development, and in this regard calls for the strengthening of technical and scientific cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and reiterates the importance of human resources development, including through training, the exchange of experience and expertise, knowledge transfer and technical assistance for capacity-building, which involves strengthening institutional capacity, including planning, management and monitoring capacities;

36. *Also emphasizes* the importance of increasing international cooperation to improve the quality of and access to education, in particular for African countries, including through building and strengthening education-related infrastructure and increasing investment in education, and in this regard notes the Global Education First Initiative of the Secretary-General and its objectives and invites Member States to contribute to the Initiative, as appropriate, including through the allocation of adequate resources;

37. *Urges* African countries and development partners to meet the needs of young people and empower them, in particular by tackling the high levels of youth unemployment through the development of education and training programmes that address illiteracy, enhance the employability and capabilities of young people, facilitate school-to-work transitions and expand guaranteed employment schemes, where appropriate, with particular attention to disadvantaged young people in both rural and urban areas;

38. *Recognizes* that improving access to school for all girls and boys, especially the poorest and most vulnerable and marginalized, and their ability to receive a quality education, and improving the quality of education beyond primary school can have a positive impact in terms of empowerment and on social, economic and political participation and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger and can contribute directly to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

39. *Also recognizes* that Africa's youthful population creates significant opportunities for the continent's development, and underlines in this regard the importance of African countries creating appropriate policy environments to take advantage of the continent's demographic transition while adopting an inclusive results-based approach to development planning and implementation in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

40. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations, other relevant institutions and stakeholders, as appropriate, to provide relevant skills training for youth, high-quality health-care services and dynamic labour markets to employ a growing population;

41. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance support and fulfil its commitments to take further action in areas critical to Africa's economic and social development, and welcomes the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership;

42. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance and to increase its development impact, recognizes its Development Cooperation Forum, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action¹⁷ and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization and managing for results, further welcomes 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, adopted on

¹⁷ A/63/539, annex.

2 December 2008,¹⁸ and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

43. *Recognizes* the need for Governments and the international community to continue to make efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries, and welcomes the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners in this regard;

44. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

45. *Expresses deep concern* that illicit financial flows and poor legal, fiscal and regulatory frameworks for mineral resources undermine national development efforts, encourages African countries to take measures to address these challenges, and invites development partners to continue to assist African countries in tackling illicit financial flows;

46. *Encourages* Africa's development partners to continue to integrate the priorities, values and principles of the New Partnership into their development assistance programmes;

47. *Encourages* African countries and their development partners to place people at the centre of government development action, to secure core investment spending in health, education and social protection and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, recognizing that social protection floors can provide a basis from which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 101st session, on 14 June 2012;

48. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa;¹⁹

49. *Emphasizes* the importance for the cluster working on communication, advocacy and outreach to continue to muster international support for the New Partnership and to urge the United Nations system to demonstrate more evidence of cross-sectoral synergies to promote a comprehensive approach with regard to successive phases of planning and implementation of social development programmes in Africa;

50. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives, based on their national development priorities and strategies, to enable them to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this respect acknowledges commitments made by development partners;

51. *Encourages* the international community to support African countries in addressing the challenges of climate change by mobilizing and providing the financial and technological resources and capacity-building training needed to support adaptation and mitigation action;

52. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to discuss in its annual programme of work those regional programmes that promote social development so as to enable all regions to share experiences and best practices, with the agreement of concerned countries, and in this regard requests that the work programmes of the Commission include priority areas of the New Partnership, as appropriate;

53. *Encourages* African countries and their partners to maximize the opportunities presented by the convergence of major global policy events in the context of the post-2015 development agenda and to work to ensure that the new global framework duly considers the priorities encapsulated in the African Common Position on the post-2015 development agenda and the African Union Agenda 2063;

¹⁸ General Assembly resolution 63/239, annex.

¹⁹ The nine clusters include infrastructure development; environment, population and urbanization; social and human development; science and technology; advocacy and communication; governance; peace and security; agriculture, food security and rural development; and industry, trade and market access.

54. *Invites* engagement in intergovernmental efforts to continue to improve the coherence and effectiveness of the United Nations system in support of Africa and to continue to support the Economic Commission for Africa in the execution of its mandate, particularly by working with its members to ensure that the post-2015 development agenda gives due consideration to Africa's social development priorities;

55. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership at its fifty-fourth session;

56. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Economic Commission for Africa, taking into consideration General Assembly resolutions 62/179 of 19 December 2007, 63/267 of 31 March 2009, 64/258 of 16 March 2010, 65/284 of 22 June 2011, 66/286 of 23 July 2012, 67/294 of 15 August 2013 and 68/301 of 17 July 2014, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support", to submit to the Commission for Social Development, for its consideration at its fifty-fourth session, a report on the social dimensions of the New Partnership, including, in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies, an overview of current processes related to social development in Africa, including recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of the work of United Nations bodies while preserving the social dimensions of the New Partnership.

32nd plenary meeting
8 June 2015

2015/4. Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the post-2015 development agenda

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,²⁰ and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,²¹

Reaffirming the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, adopted on 13 December 2006,²² as a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, and recognizing that it is both a human rights treaty and a development tool,

Recalling earlier operational frameworks, such as the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons²³ and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,²⁴

Reaffirming the commitments contained in the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, held on 23 September 2013,²⁵ which advanced the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond, recognizing persons with disabilities as agents and beneficiaries of development, and acknowledging the value of their contributions to the general well-being, progress and diversity of society,

Noting the reference to persons with disabilities in the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals,²⁶ which shall be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda, while recognizing that other inputs will also be considered in the intergovernmental negotiation process,

²⁰ *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

²¹ General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

²² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

²³ A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

²⁴ General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

²⁵ General Assembly resolution 68/3.

²⁶ A/68/970 and Corr.1.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “A life of dignity for all: accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015”,²⁷ in which the consideration of the inclusion of disability as a cross-cutting issue across the successor set of goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda was recommended,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “The road to dignity by 2030: ending poverty, transforming all lives and protecting the planet”,²⁸ which also integrated a disability perspective,

Welcoming Human Rights Council resolution 26/20 of 27 June 2014,²⁹ by which the Council established the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities,

Recalling the expiry of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development on 31 December 2014 and the decision of the Commission to consider the possibility of establishing another monitoring mechanism, with a view to strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in social development,

Welcoming the work of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility and efforts to create synergies within existing United Nations mechanisms,

Convinced that addressing the profound social, cultural and economic disadvantage and exclusion experienced by many persons with disabilities, promoting the use of universal design, as appropriate, as well as the progressive removal of barriers to the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of development and promoting the equal enjoyment by persons with disabilities of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights will further the equalization of opportunities and contribute to the realization of a “society for all” in the twenty-first century,

Noting that, while progress has already been made by Governments, the international community and the United Nations system in mainstreaming the issue of disability as an integral part of the global development agenda, major challenges remain,

Emphasizing the importance of mainstreaming the perspective of persons with disabilities into disaster risk reduction activities, and recognizing the need for their inclusive participation in and contribution to disaster preparedness, emergency response, recovery and transition from relief to development, as well as the implementation of policies and programmes that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities,

Recalling the request to the President of the General Assembly to organize, during the seventieth session of the Assembly, a panel discussion to follow up on the status and progress made towards the realization of the development goals for persons with disabilities in relation to the follow-up to the outcome of the high-level meeting on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities and in relation to the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as being aware of the importance of building on this panel discussion,

1. *Expresses appreciation* for the work of the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development in the completion of his mandate, and takes note of his report³⁰ and the expiry of the mandate;

2. *Welcomes* the appointment by the Human Rights Council of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities,²⁹ and invites her to closely cooperate with the Commission for Social Development according to the development component of the mandate, including by making concrete recommendations on how to contribute to the realization of internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities, how to promote development that is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities and how to promote their role as both agents for and beneficiaries of development;

3. *Decides* to hold, at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission for Social Development, a multi-stakeholder panel discussion, entitled “Implementation of the post-2015 development agenda in the light of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”, in order to further elaborate on how the existing

²⁷ A/68/202 and Corr.1.

²⁸ A/69/700.

²⁹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

³⁰ See E/CN.5/2015/5.

mechanisms and entities within the United Nations system can contribute to strengthening the mainstreaming of disability issues, to enhance awareness and cooperation at all levels on the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and to consider the possibility and modalities of another monitoring mechanism;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to ensure that all development policies and programmes, including those regarding poverty eradication, social protection, full and productive employment and decent work, and appropriate measures for financial inclusion as well as urban planning, accessible community and housing development, take into account the needs, rights and potentials of and benefit to all persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others;

5. *Encourages* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to achieve the full application and implementation of the international normative framework on disability and development by encouraging the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities²² and by considering the ratification of the Optional Protocol thereto,³¹ as both human rights and development instruments;

6. *Emphasizes* the need for measures to ensure that persons with disabilities, in particular women, children, youth, indigenous peoples and older persons, are not subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination or excluded from participation on an equal basis with others in the implementation of international development goals;

7. *Decides* to continue to give due consideration to the issue of disability and development, including within the framework of United Nations operational activities, in accordance with relevant mandates, in order to enhance awareness and cooperation at all levels, including the participation, where appropriate, of United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks and institutions and other relevant stakeholders, while ensuring coordination and avoiding any possible overlapping;

8. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations agencies and bodies, development agencies and international organizations, and encourages the private sector, to regard accessibility as both a means and a goal of inclusive and sustainable development, and therefore an essential investment that benefits all members of society, and, hence, to ensure that accessibility is an integral part of programmes and projects relating to the built environment, transportation and information and communications technologies;

9. *Encourages* the mobilization of resources on a sustainable basis to mainstream disability in development at all levels, and in this regard underlines the need to promote and strengthen international cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, in support of national efforts, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of national mechanisms, in particular in developing countries;

10. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and all relevant stakeholders to improve disability data collection, analysis and monitoring for development policy planning, implementation and evaluation, fully taking regional contexts into account, and to share, where appropriate, relevant data and statistics with relevant agencies and bodies within the United Nations system, including the Statistical Commission, through appropriate mechanisms, and underlines the need for internationally comparable data and statistics disaggregated by sex and age, including information on disability;

11. *Underlines* the importance of closely consulting with and actively involving persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in the development and implementation of the emerging post-2015 development agenda;

12. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development, at its fifty-fifth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, integrating the Chair's summary of the discussions and the proposals made during the multi-stakeholder panel discussion held during the fifty-fourth session.

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³¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2518, No. 44910.

2015/5. Modalities for the third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that, in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, adopted by the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002,³² the systematic review of its implementation by Member States was requested as being essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons,

Recalling also that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2003/14 of 21 July 2003, invited Governments, the United Nations system and civil society to participate in a bottom-up approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action,

Bearing in mind that the Commission for Social Development, in its resolution 42/1 of 13 February 2004, decided to undertake the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years,³³

Recalling that, in its resolution 2014/7 of 12 June 2014, it noted that the third review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action would take place in 2017,

Noting the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and its contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the Madrid Plan of Action,

Recognizing the continued need to give due consideration to the situation of older persons in the ongoing discussion on the post-2015 development agenda,

Noting the appointment by the Human Rights Council of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons,³⁴ whose mandate includes the assessment of the human rights implications of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,³⁵

1. *Endorses* the timeline for carrying out the third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,³² as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General,³⁵ which, inter alia, determines that the global review will take place in 2018;

2. *Decides* that the procedure for the third review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action will follow the set procedure of the second review and appraisal exercise;

3. *Invites* Member States to identify actions they have taken since the second review and appraisal exercise, with the aim of presenting this information to the regional commissions during 2017, and invites each Member State to decide for itself the actions or activities it intends to review, utilizing a bottom-up participatory approach;

4. *Encourages* Member States to establish or strengthen a national coordinating body or mechanism, as appropriate, in order to, inter alia, facilitate the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including its review and appraisal;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to utilize more fully, within their specific national circumstances, a bottom-up participatory approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action by inviting, inter alia, organizations of older persons to participate in the review processes at the national and regional levels by submitting the views of their members on the implementation of the Plan of Action and on regional plans of action;

6. *Invites* Member States to consider utilizing, in their national review and appraisal exercises, a combination of quantitative and participatory qualitative data-gathering and analysis, including, where appropriate, sharing of best practices in such data collection;

³² *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

³³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 6* (E/2004/26), chap. I, sect. E.

³⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III, resolution 24/20.

³⁵ E/CN.5/2015/4.

7. *Requests* the regional commissions to continue to facilitate the review and appraisal exercise at the regional level, including through consultation with relevant regional bodies, as appropriate, by, inter alia:

(a) Providing assistance to Member States, upon request, in the organization of their national review and appraisal exercises;

(b) Organizing regional review meetings;

(c) Using an inclusive and coordinated approach in relation to the participation of civil society in the planning and evaluation processes of the review and appraisal exercise;

(d) Promoting networking and the sharing of information and experiences;

(e) Providing an analysis of the main findings, identifying key priority action areas and good practices and suggesting policy responses by 2017;

8. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to support Member States in their national review and appraisal efforts by providing, upon their request, technical assistance for capacity-building;

9. *Encourages* Member States and United Nations organizations, where appropriate, to provide support to the regional commissions in facilitating the review and appraisal process and in organizing regional meetings to review national review and appraisal results in 2017;

10. *Invites* Member States and the United Nations system, including the agencies, funds and programmes of the system, to take concrete measures to mainstream ageing issues, including the views of older persons, into their own programming and existing United Nations mandates;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-fifth session, in 2017, a report, including an analysis of the preliminary findings of the third review and appraisal exercise, together with an identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session, in 2018, a report, including the conclusions of the third review and appraisal exercise, together with the identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options.

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2015/6. Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2013/18 of 24 July 2013, in which it decided that the Commission on the Status of Women should review the functioning of its methods of work, adopted by the Council in its resolution 2006/9 of 25 July 2006 and confirmed in its resolution 2009/15 of 28 July 2009, with a view to further enhancing the impact of the work of the Commission,

Reaffirming the primary responsibility of the Commission for the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”,³⁶

Recognizing that the organization of work of the Commission should contribute to advancing the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action³⁷ and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,

³⁶ General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

³⁷ *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.

Recognizing also that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the fulfilment of the obligations of States parties under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women³⁸ are mutually reinforcing in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as the realization of their human rights,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and underlining the catalytic role of the Commission in promoting gender mainstreaming,

Recognizing the key role of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in supporting the work of the Commission,

Recognizing also the importance of non-governmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors, in advancing the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and, in this respect, the work of the Commission,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013 on the review of the implementation of Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Council, in which it is stipulated that the Council shall invite, inter alia, its subsidiary bodies to contribute, as appropriate, to its work in keeping with the agreed annual theme,

Noting the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda and the relevance of the work of the Commission in this respect,

1. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of the Commission on the Status of Women for the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”,³⁶ and further reaffirms its mandate and its important role in overall policymaking and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,³⁷ in which it is recognized that the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all women and girls is essential for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

2. *Affirms* that the Commission will also contribute to the follow-up to the post-2015 development agenda, to be adopted at the United Nations summit to be held in September 2015, so as to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

3. *Decides* that the Commission will report on the aspects relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women of the agreed main theme of the Economic and Social Council, in order to contribute to its work;

4. *Also decides* that the session of the Commission will include a ministerial segment to reaffirm and strengthen political commitment to the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as well as their human rights and to ensure high-level engagement and the visibility of the deliberations of the Commission, and that the segment will include ministerial round tables or other high-level interactive dialogues to exchange experiences, lessons learned and good practices, as well as a general discussion on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

5. *Further decides* that the Commission will continue to hold, on an annual basis, a general discussion that will commence during the ministerial segment on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and recommends that statements identify goals attained, achievements made and efforts under way to close gaps and meet challenges in relation to the priority theme and the review theme;

6. *Decides* that statements made during the general discussion will continue to be subject to strict time limits that will be determined prior to the session by the Bureau of the Commission and consistently applied by the Chair;

³⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

7. *Also decides* that the Commission will continue to consider one priority theme at each session, on the basis of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and possible linkages to the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted at the summit;

8. *Further decides* that the consideration by the Commission of the priority theme shall focus on ways and means to accelerate the implementation of commitments in the context of current challenges, through not more than two interactive expert panels or other interactive dialogues to identify key policy initiatives and strategies in order to accelerate implementation on the basis of an exchange of national, regional and global experiences, lessons learned, good practices and new insights based on evidence, research and evaluation, with an emphasis on results achieved, and to strengthen dialogue and commitment for further action, and that the expert panels could include experts from Governments, the United Nations system, civil society and other stakeholder groups that work on the theme under consideration;

9. *Decides* that the outcome of the annual discussions on the priority theme shall be in the form of short and succinct agreed conclusions, negotiated by all Member States, which shall focus on action-oriented recommendations for steps and measures to close remaining gaps, meet challenges and accelerate implementation, to be taken by Governments, relevant intergovernmental bodies, mechanisms and entities of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, and that the agreed conclusions shall be widely disseminated to the United Nations system and made widely available by all Member States to the public in their own countries so as to encourage follow-up action;

10. *Also decides* that the Commission will, as necessary, continue to discuss emerging issues, trends, focus areas and new approaches to questions affecting the situation of women, including equality between women and men, that require timely consideration, taking into account developments at the global and regional levels as well as planned activities within the United Nations, where increased attention to gender perspectives is required, and with attention to relevant issues on the agenda of the Council, in particular its annual main theme, as applicable;

11. *Requests* the Bureau of the Commission, prior to the session, to identify such an emerging issue, trend, focus area or new approach, in consultation with all Member States, through their regional groups, and taking into account inputs from other relevant stakeholders, for consideration by the Commission through an interactive dialogue;

12. *Decides* that the outcome of the discussion on that emerging issue, trend, focus area or new approach will be in the form of a summary by the Chair of the Commission, prepared in consultation with the regional groups, through the members of the Bureau;

13. *Also decides* that, at each session, the Commission will evaluate progress in the implementation of the agreed conclusions on a priority theme of a previous session, as its review theme, through an interactive dialogue that includes:

(a) Member States of different regions, on a voluntary basis, presenting their lessons learned, challenges and best practices that identify means for accelerated implementation through national and regional experiences;

(b) Ways to support and achieve accelerated implementation, including through addressing data gaps and challenges in the enhanced collection, reporting, use and analysis of data with regard to the theme, at the national, regional and global levels;

14. *Further decides* that the outcome of the discussion on the review theme will be in the form of a summary by the Chair of the Commission, prepared in consultation with the regional groups, through the members of the Bureau;

15. *Calls upon* the Commission to further enhance its catalytic role for gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system, including in support of the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted at the summit by, inter alia, expanding its cooperation with other intergovernmental processes and functional commissions through, as appropriate, the exchange of information and transmission of the outcomes of its work, joint informal interactive events and the participation of its Chair, in consultation with the Bureau, in relevant processes;

16. *Invites* all gender-specific United Nations entities and other relevant United Nations entities, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, to contribute, where appropriate, to the discussion of the Commission;

17. *Invites* the regional commissions to continue to contribute to the work of the Commission;
18. *Decides*, in view of the traditional importance of non-governmental organizations in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, that, in accordance with Council resolutions 1996/6 of 22 July 1996 and 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, such organizations should be encouraged to participate, to the maximum extent possible, in the work of the Commission and in the monitoring and implementation process relating to the Fourth World Conference on Women, and requests the Secretary-General to make appropriate arrangements to ensure full utilization of existing channels of communication with non-governmental organizations in order to facilitate broad-based participation and the dissemination of information;
19. *Also decides* to strengthen existing opportunities for non-governmental organizations, in accordance with Council resolutions 1996/6 and 1996/31, to contribute to the work of the Commission, including by allocating time for them to deliver statements on themes relevant to the session, during panels and interactive dialogues and at the end of the general discussion, taking into account geographical distribution;
20. *Notes with appreciation* the continuation of the annual parliamentary meetings organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and their contribution to the discussion of the Commission, as well as the programme of side events held on the occasion of the sessions of the Commission;
21. *Encourages* all Member States to consider including in their delegations to the Commission technical experts, planning and budgeting experts and statisticians, including from ministries with expertise relevant to the themes under consideration, as well as parliamentarians, members of national human rights institutions, where they exist, and representatives of non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors, as appropriate;
22. *Encourages* the Bureau of the Commission to continue to play a proactive role in the preparations for the session, including through regular briefings and consultations with Member States;
23. *Also encourages* the Bureau of the Commission to continue to propose interactive dialogues, such as high-level events and ministerial and expert workshops that engage Member States and relevant stakeholders, so as to encourage dialogue and enhance the impact of its work;
24. *Encourages* Governments and all other stakeholders to undertake comprehensive preparations for each session of the Commission, at the national, regional and global levels, as applicable, so as to strengthen the basis for follow-up to outcomes and implementation;
25. *Requests* the Commission to continue to apply a thematic approach to its work and to adopt a multi-year programme of work to allow for predictability and adequate time for preparation; in selecting its priority theme, the Commission should take into consideration, in addition to the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, the programme of work of the Council, as well as the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted at the summit, so as to build synergies and contribute to the work of the Council system and the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, on an annual basis, a report on the priority theme, including conclusions and recommendations for further action;
27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, on an annual basis, a report on progress made on the review theme at the national level;
28. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in the annual report to the Council on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system an assessment of the impact of the input of the Commission to discussions within the United Nations system;
29. *Decides* that, at the sixtieth session of the Commission, when it will decide on its future multi-year programme of work, it should further review its working methods with a view to further aligning them with the post-2015 development agenda to be adopted at the summit.

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2015/7. Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1999/65 of 26 October 1999 and 2013/25 of 25 July 2013,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals during the biennium 2013–2014,³⁹

A. Work of the Committee regarding the transport of dangerous goods

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Committee for the harmonization of codes and regulations relating to the transport of dangerous goods,

Bearing in mind the need to maintain safety standards at all times and to facilitate trade, as well as the importance of these issues to the various organizations responsible for modal regulations, while meeting the growing concern for the protection of life, property and the environment through the safe and secure transport of dangerous goods,

Noting the ever-increasing volume of dangerous goods being introduced into worldwide commerce and the rapid expansion of technology and innovation,

Recalling that, while the major international instruments governing the transport of dangerous goods by the various modes of transport and many national regulations are now better harmonized with the Model Regulations annexed to the recommendations of the Committee on the transport of dangerous goods, further work on harmonizing these instruments is necessary to enhance safety and to facilitate trade, and recalling also that uneven progress in the updating of national inland transport legislation in some countries of the world continues to present serious challenges to international multimodal transport,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals with respect to matters relating to the transport of dangerous goods, including their security in transport;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate the new and amended recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods⁴⁰ to the Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international organizations concerned;

(b) To publish the nineteenth revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations* and the sixth revised edition of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Manual of Tests and Criteria* in all the official languages of the United Nations, in the most cost-effective manner, no later than the end of 2015;

(c) To make those publications available in book and electronic format and on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe, which provides secretariat services to the Committee;

3. *Invites* all Governments, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and the other international organizations concerned to transmit to the secretariat of the Committee their views on the work of the Committee, together with any comments that they may wish to make on the recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods;

4. *Invites* all interested Governments, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and the international organizations concerned to take into account the recommendations of the Committee when developing or updating appropriate codes and regulations;

³⁹ E/2015/66.

⁴⁰ ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.1 and Corr.1 and Add.2.

5. *Requests* the Committee to study, in consultation with the International Maritime Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental organizations concerned, the possibilities of improving the implementation of the Model Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods in all countries for the purposes of ensuring a high level of safety and eliminating technical barriers to international trade, including through the further harmonization of international agreements or conventions governing the international transport of dangerous goods;

6. *Invites* all Governments, as well as the regional commissions and organizations concerned, the International Maritime Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization to provide feedback to the Committee regarding differences between the provisions of national, regional or international legal instruments and those of the Model Regulations, in order to enable the Committee to develop cooperative guidelines for enhancing consistency between these requirements and reducing unnecessary impediments; to identify existing substantive and international, regional and national differences, with the aim of reducing those differences in modal treatment to the greatest extent practical and ensuring that, where differences are necessary, they do not pose impediments to the safe and efficient transport of dangerous goods; and to undertake an editorial review of the Model Regulations and various modal instruments with the aim of improving clarity, user friendliness and ease of translation;

B. Mutual administrative support for monitoring compliance of UN-marked containment systems with the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations*

Noting with satisfaction that, owing to the effective implementation of the *Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Model Regulations* through national, regional and international legally binding instruments, as described in paragraph 8 of the report of the Secretary-General,³⁹ dangerous goods that are moved internationally have to be contained in packagings, containers and tanks bearing a “UN” mark certifying that they correspond to a design type that has been successfully tested under the control of the competent authority of the State authorizing the allocation of the mark,

Noting with concern that irregularities in, or forgery of, certification of “UN” packagings have been observed in international transport, leading to the use of packagings that do not meet the required performance level and increasing the risk of dramatic accidents that would affect the public, workers, means of transport, properties and the environment,

Recalling the basic principle laid down by the Committee that “The competent authority should ensure compliance with these Regulations. Means to discharge this responsibility include the establishment and execution of a programme for monitoring the design, manufacture, testing, inspection and maintenance of packaging, the classification of dangerous goods and the preparation, documentation, handling and stowage of packages by consignors and carriers, to provide evidence that the provisions of the Model Regulations are being met in practice”,

Recognizing that mutual administrative assistance between the competent authorities of countries concerned would facilitate investigations and improve compliance assurance, but is currently prevented owing to lack of information on the contact details of competent authorities at the worldwide level,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To seek information from all States Members of the United Nations, and other States if appropriate, on the contact details of:

- (i) The competent authorities responsible for national regulations applicable to the transport of dangerous goods by modes of transport other than by air or by sea;
- (ii) The competent authorities, and their country identification codes, allowing, in the name of the State, the allocation of the “UN” mark on packagings, pressure receptacles, bulk containers and portable tanks;

(b) To develop and maintain up to date the lists of contact details;

(c) To make this information available on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe, which provides secretariat services to the Committee;

2. *Invites* all Member States to provide the requested information;

C. Work of the Committee regarding the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Bearing in mind that in paragraph 23 (c) of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),⁴¹ countries were encouraged to implement the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals as soon as possible with a view to having the system fully operational by 2008,

Bearing in mind also that the General Assembly, in its resolution 57/253 of 20 December 2002, endorsed the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and requested the Economic and Social Council to implement the provisions of the Plan relevant to its mandate and, in particular, to promote the implementation of Agenda 21⁴² by strengthening system-wide coordination,

Noting with satisfaction:

(a) That the Economic Commission for Europe and all United Nations programmes and specialized agencies concerned with chemical safety in the field of transport or of the environment, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization, have already taken appropriate steps to amend or update their legal instruments in order to give effect to the Globally Harmonized System or are considering amending them as soon as possible,

(b) That the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization are also taking appropriate steps to adapt their existing chemical safety recommendations, codes and guidelines to the Globally Harmonized System, in particular in the areas of occupational health and safety, pesticide management and the prevention and treatment of poisoning,

(c) That national legislation or standards implementing the Globally Harmonized System, or allowing its application, in one or several sectors other than transport have already been issued in Australia (2012), Brazil (2009), China (2010), Ecuador (2009), Japan (2006), Mauritius (2004), Mexico (2011), New Zealand (2001), the Republic of Korea (2006), the Russian Federation (2010), Serbia (2010), Singapore (2008), South Africa (2009), Switzerland (2009), Thailand (2012), the United States of America (2012), Uruguay (2009), Viet Nam (2009) and Zambia (2013), as well as in the 28 countries members of the European Union and the 3 countries members of the European Economic Area (2008),

(d) That work on the development or revision of national legislation, standards or guidelines applicable to chemicals in the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System continues in other countries, while in some others activities related to the development of sectoral implementation plans or national implementation strategies are being conducted or are expected to be initiated soon,

(e) That a number of United Nations programmes and specialized agencies and regional organizations, in particular the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Labour Organization, the World Health Organization, the Economic Commission for Europe, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the European Union, Governments and non-governmental organizations representing the chemical industry have organized or contributed to multiple workshops, seminars and other capacity-building activities at the international, regional, subregional and national levels, in order to raise administration, health sector and industry awareness and to prepare for or support the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System,

Aware that effective implementation will require further cooperation between the Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and the international bodies concerned, continued efforts by the Governments of Member States, cooperation with the industry and other stakeholders and significant support for capacity-building activities in countries with economies in transition and developing countries,

⁴¹ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.IIA.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

⁴² *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 II.

Recalling the particular significance of the Global Partnership for Capacity-building to Implement the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the International Labour Organization and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development for building capacities at all levels,

1. *Commends* the Secretary-General on the publication of the fifth revised edition of the *Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals*⁴³ in the six official languages of the United Nations, in book form and on CD-ROM, and its availability, together with related informational material, on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe, which provides secretariat services to the Committee;

2. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to the Committee, the Commission and the United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and other organizations concerned for their fruitful cooperation and their commitment to the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To circulate the amendments⁴⁴ to the fifth revised edition of the *Globally Harmonized System* to the Governments of Member States, the specialized agencies and other international organizations concerned;

(b) To publish the sixth revised edition of the *Globally Harmonized System* in all the official languages of the United Nations in the most cost-effective manner, no later than the end of 2015, and to make it available in book and electronic format and on the website of the Commission;

(c) To continue to make information on the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System available on the website of the Commission;

4. *Invites* Governments that have not yet done so to take the necessary steps, through appropriate national procedures and/or legislation, to implement the Globally Harmonized System as soon as possible;

5. *Reiterates its invitation* to the regional commissions, United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and other organizations concerned to promote the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System and, where relevant, to amend their respective international legal instruments addressing transport safety, workplace safety, consumer protection or the protection of the environment, so as to give effect to the Globally Harmonized System through such instruments;

6. *Invites* Governments, the regional commissions, United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and other organizations concerned to provide feedback to the Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals on the steps taken for the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System in all relevant sectors, through international, regional or national legal instruments, recommendations, codes and guidelines, including, when applicable, information about the transitional periods for its implementation;

7. *Encourages* Governments, the regional commissions, United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and other relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations, in particular those representing industry, to strengthen their support for the implementation of the Globally Harmonized System by providing financial contributions and/or technical assistance for capacity-building activities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

D. Programme of work of the Committee

Taking note of the programme of work of the Committee for the biennium 2015–2016 as contained in paragraphs 50 and 51 of the report of the Secretary-General,³⁹

Noting the relatively poor level of participation of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the work of the Committee and the need to promote their wider participation in its work,

1. *Approves* the programme of work of the Committee;³⁹

⁴³ [ST/SG/AC.10/30/Rev.5](#).

⁴⁴ [ST/SG/AC.10/42/Add.3](#).

2. *Stresses* the importance of the participation of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the work of the Committee, calls in that regard for voluntary contributions to facilitate their participation, including through support for travel and daily subsistence, and invites Member States and international organizations in a position to do so to contribute;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council in 2017 a report on the implementation of the present resolution, the recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods and the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

*32nd plenary meeting
8 June 2015*

2015/8. United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2013/12 of 22 July 2013 and 2014/10 of 13 June 2014 on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,

Acknowledging that the global burden and threat of non-communicable diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which are linked to four main risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, as well as the global burden of mental health and neurological issues constitute major challenges for economic and social development in the twenty-first century and may lead to increasing inequalities within and between countries and populations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases⁴⁵ and the recommendations contained therein, including to report annually on progress made in implementing Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/12;

2. *Encourages* members of the Task Force to continue to work together in a coordinated manner to support national efforts to implement the commitments included in the 2011 political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases⁴⁶ and the 2014 outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,⁴⁷ building on guidance set out in the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020;⁴⁸

3. *Encourages* the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to scale up the delivery of actions contained in the workplan of the Task Force;

4. *Encourages* the Task Force to further enhance systematic support to Member States, upon request, at the national level, in efforts to support responses to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and mitigate their impacts, including through the establishment of a resident thematic group or equivalent entity on non-communicable diseases by United Nations country teams or incorporating non-communicable diseases into an existing thematic group, in order to ensure that these issues are integrated into health planning and national development plans and policies, including the design process and implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its 2016 session on progress achieved in implementing resolution 2013/12, under the sub-item entitled “Prevention and control of non-communicable

⁴⁵ E/2015/53.

⁴⁶ General Assembly resolution 66/2, annex.

⁴⁷ General Assembly resolution 68/300.

⁴⁸ World Health Organization, document WHA66/2013/REC/1, annex 4.

diseases” of the item entitled “Coordination, programme and other questions”, in preparation for a comprehensive review by the General Assembly, in 2018, of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.

33rd plenary meeting
9 June 2015

2015/9. United Nations System Staff College in Turin, Italy

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions [54/228](#) of 22 December 1999, [55/207](#) of 20 December 2000, [55/258](#) of 14 June 2001, [55/278](#) of 12 July 2001, [58/224](#) of 23 December 2003 and [60/214](#) of 22 December 2005,

Recalling also its resolutions 2009/10 of 27 July 2009, 2011/10 of 22 July 2011 and 2013/14 of 23 July 2013,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations System Staff College as an institution for system-wide knowledge management, training and continuous learning for the staff of the United Nations system, in particular in the areas of economic and social development, peace and security and internal management,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution [60/214](#),⁴⁹

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁴⁹
2. *Welcomes* the progress made by the United Nations System Staff College over the past two years in providing high-quality learning and training to the United Nations system;
3. *Recognizes* the continuing work of the Staff College to consolidate its central role in inter-agency learning, training and knowledge-sharing, in the light of the current efforts to equip the staff of the United Nations with the right knowledge and the skills necessary to respond to global challenges, including the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda;
4. *Welcomes* the increased role of the Staff College as a catalyst for organizational change and transformation within the United Nations system;
5. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by the Staff College in ensuring its sustainability, including through self-generated resources;
6. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system to make full and effective use of the services provided by the Staff College, strengthen cooperation and synergies with the Staff College and encourage the participation of their staff in relevant Staff College courses;
7. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the Staff College by recognizing its unique inter-agency function and its important role in building the capacity of United Nations staff and organizations for the effective and efficient delivery of their mandates.

33rd plenary meeting
9 June 2015

2015/10. 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2005/13 of 22 July 2005, in which it requested the Secretary-General to implement the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme and urged Member States to carry out population and housing censuses at least once during the period from 2005 to 2014, as well as its earlier resolutions endorsing previous decennial programmes,

⁴⁹ E/2015/54.

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by Member States to carry out population and housing censuses as part of the 2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme and the activities of the United Nations and other agencies in support of national efforts in that regard,

Noting efforts made by countries in the 2010 census round to reduce costs and improve the quality and timeliness of census operations and the wide dissemination of their census results through the use of new methodologies and contemporary technologies in the different phases of the census operation,

Recognizing the increasing importance of integrating the population and housing censuses with other types of censuses, civil registration and vital statistics and other statistical activities, such as the census of agriculture, census of establishments and administrative data sets,

Recognizing also the increasing importance of the 2020 round of population and housing censuses for meeting the data needs of the follow-up activities to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, the Millennium Summit, held in New York from 6 to 8 September 2000, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 3 to 14 June 1996, the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, and to other regional and national meetings,

Stressing that population and housing censuses for a country as a whole and for each administrative area therein are one of the primary sources of data needed for formulating, implementing and monitoring the effectiveness of policies and programmes aimed at inclusive socioeconomic development and environmental sustainability,

Stressing also that population and housing censuses are designed to generate valuable statistics and indicators for assessing the situation of various special population groups, such as women, children, youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees and stateless persons, and changes therein,

1. *Endorses* the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme, which comprises a number of activities aimed at ensuring that Member States conduct a population and housing census during the period from 2015 to 2024;

2. *Urges* Member States to conduct at least one population and housing census under the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme, taking into account international and regional recommendations relating to population and housing censuses and giving particular attention to advance planning, cost efficiency, coverage and the timely dissemination of, and easy access to, census results for national stakeholders, the United Nations and other appropriate intergovernmental organizations in order to inform decisions and facilitate the effective implementation of development plans and programmes;

3. *Underscores* the need for countries to set quality standards for the conduct and evaluation of population and housing censuses in order to uphold the integrity, reliability, accuracy and value of the population and housing census results, taking into full account the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;⁵⁰

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme for sustainable development planning, especially in the context of the post-2015 development agenda, and calls for full-fledged support for the Programme;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare international statistical standards, methods and guidelines to facilitate activities for the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme, to ensure coordination of activities among stakeholders in assisting Member States in the implementation of the Programme, and to monitor and regularly report to the Statistical Commission on the implementation of the Programme.

*35th plenary meeting
10 June 2015*

⁵⁰ General Assembly resolution 68/261.

2015/11. Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its seventeenth session

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004 and 67/221 of 21 December 2012, both on a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the category of least developed countries,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 59/209, the General Assembly decided that graduation from the least developed country category becomes effective three years after the date on which the Assembly takes note of the recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy to graduate a country from the category and that, during the three-year period, the country remains on the list of least developed countries and maintains the advantages associated with membership on that list,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, by which the Assembly endorsed the Istanbul Declaration⁵¹ and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,⁵²

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/15 of 14 November 2014, by which the Assembly endorsed the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled “SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway”,

Recalling also its resolutions 1998/46 of 31 July 1998, 2007/34 of 27 July 2007 and 2013/20 of 24 July 2013,

Reiterating its conviction that no country graduating from the least developed country category should have its development progress disrupted or reversed,

Bearing in mind the importance of maintaining stability in the criteria and in the application of the established procedures for inclusion in and graduation from the least developed country category so as to ensure the credibility of the process and, consequently, of the category of least developed countries, while giving due consideration to the specific challenges and vulnerabilities and the development needs of countries potentially graduating or being considered for graduation from the least developed country category,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its seventeenth session;⁵³
2. *Notes* the work done by the Committee on accountability for the post-2015 era, in accordance with the theme of the high-level segment of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council, on the triennial review of the least developed country category, on the monitoring of graduating and graduated countries from the category, on the fine-tuning of the human assets index and on the contribution of official development assistance to the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020;⁵²
3. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that Angola be graduated from the least developed country category, and recommends that the General Assembly take note of this recommendation;
4. *Recalls* the recommendation of the Committee that Tuvalu be graduated from the least developed country category, and decides to further defer the consideration of this issue until its session in 2018, allowing for the Council to have an opportunity for further consideration of the particular challenges that Tuvalu faces;
5. *Calls upon* the Committee to continue to give due consideration to the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States in the least developed country category and to continue to monitor, on a regular basis, and together with their Governments, the progress of those States that have graduated from the least developed country status, and reaffirms the commitment expressed in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway⁵⁴ to take urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerability of small island developing States;
6. *Requests* the Committee, at its eighteenth session, to examine and make recommendations on the annual theme of the 2016 session of the Council;

⁵¹ *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.

⁵² *Ibid.*, chap. II.

⁵³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 13* (E/2015/33).

⁵⁴ General Assembly resolution 69/15, annex.

7. *Reiterates* the invitation by the General Assembly, as stated in its resolution 67/221, for graduating countries to prepare their national transition strategy with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with their bilateral and multilateral development and trading partners and to report annually to the Committee on the preparation of that strategy;

8. *Acknowledges with satisfaction* the contributions made by the Committee to the various aspects of the programme of work of the Council, reiterates its invitation for increased interactions between the Council and the Committee, and encourages the Chair and, as necessary, other members of the Committee to continue this practice, as specified in Council resolution 2011/20 of 27 July 2011, within existing resources and as appropriate.

*35th plenary meeting
10 June 2015*

2015/12. Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,⁵⁵ and recalling its resolutions on the subject matter, including resolutions 2011/6 of 14 July 2011, 2012/24 of 27 July 2012, 2013/16 of 24 July 2013 and 2014/2 of 12 June 2014,

Reaffirming also the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,⁵⁶ the 2005 World Summit,⁵⁷ the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,⁵⁸ the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development⁵⁹ and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming further that their full, effective and accelerated implementation is integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming further the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and to further undertake to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and constitutes a critical strategy in the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action⁶⁰ and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”,⁶¹ as well as in the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development⁶² and of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security,

Underlining the catalytic role played by the Commission on the Status of Women and the important roles played by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, taking note of the agreed conclusions and

⁵⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/52/3/Rev.1)*, chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

⁵⁶ See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

⁵⁷ See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

⁵⁸ See General Assembly resolution 65/1.

⁵⁹ See General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

⁶⁰ *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.

⁶¹ General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

⁶² *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.

decisions of the Commission related to the promotion and monitoring of gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the political declaration on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, adopted by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session,⁶³

Recalling General Assembly resolution 67/226 of 21 December 2012, entitled “Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system”, including in particular section III.D on gender equality and women’s empowerment,

Recalling also the section of General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 entitled “Strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women”,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General⁶⁴ and the recommendations contained therein, and appreciates that it continues to include comprehensive and systematic system-wide data collection and evidence-based analysis, allowing for comprehensive follow-up on progress made throughout the United Nations system in the implementation of resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on gender mainstreaming;

2. *Urges* intensifying and continuing efforts to mainstream a gender perspective, including increasing resource allocations commensurate with gender equality goals, into all policies and programmes of the United Nations, in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions;

3. *Stresses* that the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality constitutes a key forum for advocating, coordinating and monitoring progress in the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into the overall substantive normative, operational and programmatic work within the United Nations system, and looks forward to the continued role of the Network in monitoring progress on more effective coordination, coherence and impact in accelerating the implementation of the policy and strategy for gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

4. *Also stresses* the need to leverage existing inter-agency networks, including the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, the United Nations Evaluation Group, the Finance and Budget Network of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the Representatives of Internal Audit Services of the United Nations Organizations and Multilateral Financial Institutions, to take increased responsibility for the implementation of relevant action plan performance indicators;

5. *Welcomes* the important and continued extensive work of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for more effective and coherent gender mainstreaming across the United Nations, recognizes its role in leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women, as established by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/289, and also recognizes its role in assisting Member States, upon their request, at the international, regional, national and local levels;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening the capacity of UN-Women, including through adequate funding, to carry out its mandates for normative support, coordination and operational functions, inter alia, for coordinating the United Nations system in the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective and the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action⁶⁰ and of its review and appraisal at the international, regional, national and local levels, including through systematic gender mainstreaming, the mobilization of resources to deliver results and the monitoring of progress with data and robust accountability systems;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 67/226, including by:

(a) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all its operational mechanisms, inter alia, the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and other development frameworks;

⁶³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 7 (E/2015/27)*, chap. I, sect. C, resolution 59/1, annex.

⁶⁴ E/2015/58.

(b) Ensuring that managers provide strong leadership and support, within the United Nations system, to advance gender mainstreaming;

(c) Increasing the investment in and focus on outputs and outcomes relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women;

(d) Strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting so as to allow for system-wide assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming;

(e) Mobilizing and developing sufficient gender expertise for planning, implementation and gender-related resource allocation and tracking;

(f) Mainstreaming gender-responsive planning and budgeting and intensifying the use of gender marker systems, including in the humanitarian programme cycle;

(g) Strengthening capacities and using existing resources, including institutions and infrastructure, to assist in the development and application of unified training modules and tools on gender mainstreaming;

(h) Continuing efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments in the Professional and higher categories within the United Nations system at the headquarters, regional and country levels, including in appointments of resident coordinators, humanitarian coordinators, Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, Deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and other high-level posts, in full compliance with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations and keeping in mind the principle of equitable geographical representation, with due regard to the representation of women from developing countries;

8. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue and increase support to Member States, with their agreement and consent, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and of national policies for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, inter alia, by providing support and capacity development to national machineries for the advancement of women and girls and all national entities, in accordance with their functions;

9. *Welcomes* the report on the third year of implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women,⁶⁴ and commends the progress made under the leadership of UN-Women in the performance of the United Nations system on gender mainstreaming;

10. *Requests* the continued use of reporting under the System-wide Action Plan to inform the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, in order to measure the progress of the United Nations system on gender mainstreaming at the corporate level against the baseline defined in 2013;

11. *Encourages* the Chief Executives Board for Coordination and senior managers to continue to take concrete action to promote gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system, and in this regard takes note of the commitment of the Chief Executives Board, as expressed in its statement to the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, to stepping up efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls under all respective mandates, including through pursuing systematic gender mainstreaming, substantially increasing resources to deliver results, especially under the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, monitoring progress with better statistics and data disaggregated by gender, ethnicity, disability and age, and instituting robust accountability systems, including through the full implementation of the System-wide Action Plan, as well as accelerating progress towards the equal representation of women at all levels in its diverse bodies, including through temporary special measures;

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interactive dialogue with representatives of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, held during the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, as an example of exchanging best practices and approaches to considering gender equality in the work of the functional commissions, enhancing the attention of intergovernmental bodies to gender equality issues and promoting an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes;⁶⁵

⁶⁵ See [E/CN.6/2015/INF/12](#).

13. *Recognizes* that large gaps remain between policy and practice and that, while building the capacities of United Nations staff is very important, additional efforts, such as those recommended in the report of the Secretary-General, would enable the entire United Nations system to meet its commitments and obligations with respect to gender mainstreaming;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to enhance and accelerate gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, including by:

(a) Fully implementing the System-wide Action Plan, including by ensuring compliance with performance standards and reporting requirements by all entities of the United Nations system;

(b) Increasing investments to address critical areas of the System-wide Action Plan, including as regards policy development, resource tracking and allocation, the equal representation and participation of women and gender-responsive auditing, and to support capacity development;

(c) Continuing to better align gender equality programming with national priorities across sectors, including by supporting capacity-building for government institutions and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into legislations, policies and programmes in relation to national gender equality priorities;

(d) Continuing to include gender equality networks in planning and programme implementation, as well as continuing to build strategic partnerships with relevant actors, including civil society and women's organizations, as appropriate;

(e) Further enhancing the technical expertise on gender equality and gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system to assist in the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and other relevant development programming frameworks, ensuring that gender goals are strategically prioritized and that all their dimensions are systematically addressed, and promoting the identification and exchange of best practices and technical cooperation;

(f) Leveraging the leadership and convening role of resident coordinators to address gender equality as an integral part of the work of the United Nations country teams, including through joint initiatives, collective advocacy and strengthening coordination of gender-responsive operational activities across sectors;

(g) Supporting efforts by the governing bodies of United Nations entities to devote adequate attention to gender mainstreaming in their plans and activities;

(h) Enhancing the competence of staff in results-based management and programming for gender equality;

(i) Tracking gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the promotion of the use of gender markers that apply similar standards and principles to allow for comparability and aggregation;

(j) Promoting strategic advocacy and coherent communications on gender equality issues within the United Nations country teams;

(k) Continuing to work closely with the humanitarian coordinators to integrate gender equality into all facets of humanitarian action, and ensuring the equal promotion and protection of human rights for all, with equitable access to services;

(l) Substantially increasing the resources and focus on outcomes and outputs relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, especially under the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, including through better budgetary planning, common budgetary frameworks, strengthening and rationalizing joint funding mechanisms and joint resource mobilization efforts, as well as by strengthening the predictability and sustainability of the funding, broadening the donor base and increasing the flexibility of non-core resources;

(m) Continuing to support the capacity to develop and enhance standards and methodologies, for use at the national and international levels, so as to improve the collection, analysis, dissemination and use of accurate, reliable, transparent and comparable data and statistics, disaggregated by, inter alia, gender, age and disability, that are relevant to improving its guidance to country programming;

(n) Supporting the application of a gender perspective in the preparation of organization-wide and country-level documents, such as the strategic, programmatic and results-based frameworks and evaluations, and continuing

to promote more coherent, accurate and effective monitoring and reporting on progress on gender equality, the impact of the promotion of gender equality and the use of common indicators on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, taking into account the situation of women and girls who face discrimination and marginalization and those in vulnerable situations;

(o) Continuing to promote the institutionalization of transparency and robust accountability systems, with a focus on assessing gender mainstreaming, including at the level of United Nations country teams, through capitalizing on the lessons learned from the design and implementation of the System-wide Action Plan, while both expanding and drawing on assets and resources instituted to support the implementation of such transparency and accountability systems;

(p) Facilitating complementarity among accountability instruments at the global and country levels;

(q) Striving for both dedicated results at the outcome level and the mainstreaming of gender equality considerations through other priority areas;

(r) Ensuring adequate resources for meeting gender-related goals and targets across the post-2015 development framework;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council, at its substantive session of 2016, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the promotion of accountability at both the national and the global levels and on progress made in the implementation of the System-wide Action Plan.

*36th plenary meeting
10 June 2015*

2015/13. Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General,⁶⁶

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,⁶⁷ in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,⁶⁸ and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”,⁶⁹

Recalling also its resolution 2014/1 of 12 June 2014 and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution [57/337](#) of 3 July 2003, on the prevention of armed conflict, and Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 on women and peace and security,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women⁷⁰ as it concerns the protection of civilian populations,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁷¹ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights⁷¹ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁷² and reaffirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

⁶⁶ E/CN.6/2015/5.

⁶⁷ *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15–26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A

⁶⁸ *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, annex II.

⁶⁹ General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

⁷⁰ General Assembly resolution [48/104](#).

⁷¹ See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁷² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council,

Taking note of the recent accession by the State of Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law treaties,

Expressing deep concern about the grave situation of Palestinian women in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, resulting from the severe impact of the ongoing illegal Israeli occupation and all of its manifestations,

Expressing grave concern about the increased difficulties being faced by Palestinian women and girls living under Israeli occupation, including as a result of the continuation of home demolitions, evictions of Palestinians, the revocation of residency rights, arbitrary detention and imprisonment and escalating settler violence against Palestinian civilians and their properties, as well as high rates of poverty, unemployment, food insecurity, inadequate water supply and unsafe drinking water, incidents of domestic violence and declining health, education and living standards, including the rising incidence of trauma and the decline in their psychological well-being, particularly in the Gaza Strip, where a grave humanitarian crisis continues to severely affect the situation of women and girls,

Deploring the dire economic and social conditions of Palestinian women and girls in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the systematic violation of their human rights resulting from the severe impact of ongoing illegal Israeli practices, including the forced displacement of civilians, especially among the Bedouin community, and confiscation of land, particularly in connection with the construction and expansion of settlements and the wall, which continue to constitute a major obstacle to peace on the basis of the two-State solution, and the continued imposition of closures and restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including the permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which have detrimentally affected their right to health care, including access of pregnant women to health-care services for antenatal care and safe delivery, education, employment, development and freedom of movement,

Condemning the military conflict in and around the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014 and the civilian casualties caused, including the killing and injury of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including hundreds of children, women and elderly persons, as well as the widespread destruction of homes and critical civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, water, sanitation and electricity networks, economic, industrial and agricultural properties, public institutions, religious sites and United Nations schools and facilities, as well as the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians, and any violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law,

Gravely concerned, in particular, about the critical socioeconomic and humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from the Israeli military operations in July and August 2014, as well as the long-term negative impact of Israeli military operations from December 2008 to January 2009 and in November 2012, and the continuing imposition of a blockade consisting of the prolonged closure of border crossings and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, as well as the continued impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, which has detrimentally affected every aspect of the lives of the civilian population, especially women and children, in the Gaza Strip,

Stressing the need for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in accordance with international humanitarian law,

Stressing also the importance of providing assistance, especially emergency assistance, to alleviate the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women and their families, and recognizing the essential efforts and support being provided by the United Nations agencies and other humanitarian aid organizations on the ground, particularly in response to the grave humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip,

Welcoming the convening of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, on 12 October 2014, and urging the timely and full disbursement of pledges for expediting the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process, which is essential for alleviating the distress of Palestinian women and their families,

Reiterating the importance of increasing the role of women in peacebuilding and decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and the peaceful resolution of conflicts as part of efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of

all women in the region, and stressing the importance of women's equal participation and involvement in all efforts for the achievement, maintenance and promotion of peace and security,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli occupation remains the major obstacle for Palestinian women with regard to their advancement, self-reliance and integration in the development of their society, and stresses the importance of efforts to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution and to ensure their equal participation and involvement in all efforts for the achievement, maintenance and promotion of peace and security;

2. *Calls upon* the international community, in this regard, to continue to provide urgently needed assistance, especially emergency assistance, and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian women and their families, in particular for addressing the humanitarian crisis and immense reconstruction and recovery needs in the Gaza Strip, and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions, with the integration of a gender perspective into all of its international assistance programmes, commends the achievements of the Palestinian Government in constructing the institutions of an independent Palestinian State, as confirmed by international institutions, including by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations, and calls for continued support of these efforts;

3. *Calls upon* international donors to fulfil without delay all pledges made at the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza in order to expedite the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process, which is essential for alleviating the distress of Palestinian women and their families;

4. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁷³ the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 18 October 1907, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949⁷⁴ and all other relevant rules, principles and instruments of international law, including the International Covenants on Human Rights,⁷¹ in order to protect the rights of Palestinian women and their families;

5. *Urges* the international community to continue to give special attention to the promotion and protection of the human rights of Palestinian women and girls and to intensify its measures to improve the difficult conditions being faced by Palestinian women and their families living under Israeli occupation;

6. *Calls upon* Israel to facilitate the return of all refugees and displaced Palestinian women and children to their homes and properties, in compliance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

7. *Urges* the international community to make renewed efforts aimed at advancing and accelerating the conclusion of a peace treaty based on clear parameters and with a defined time frame to attain without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 by resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, for a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, in accordance with the internationally recognized basis of the two-State solution, and of the Arab-Israeli conflict as a whole, for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East;

8. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,⁶⁷ in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action⁶⁸ and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",⁶⁹

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation, to assist Palestinian women by all available means, including those laid out in his report,⁶⁶ and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixtieth session a report, including information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

*36th plenary meeting
10 June 2015*

⁷³ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

⁷⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

2015/14. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution [46/182](#) of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, and recalling other relevant resolutions of the Assembly and relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming also the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance, and the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect those principles,

Recalling its decision 2015/210 of 15 May 2015, in which it decided that the theme for the humanitarian affairs segment of its 2015 session would be “The future of humanitarian affairs: towards greater inclusiveness, coordination, interoperability and effectiveness” and that it would convene two panel discussions under the segment,

Expressing deep concern at the increasing challenges to Member States, the United Nations and their capacity caused by the impact of climate change, the ongoing consequences of the financial and economic crisis, regional food crises, continuing food and energy insecurity, water scarcity, epidemics, natural hazards and environmental degradation, which are adding to underdevelopment, poverty and inequality and are increasing the vulnerability of people while reducing their ability to cope with humanitarian crises, emphasizing the need for resources for disaster risk reduction, preparedness and humanitarian assistance, including in developing countries, to be provided efficiently and effectively, and emphasizing also the need for development and humanitarian actors to work better together to strengthen resilience, including urban resilience, in terms of prevention, preparedness and response,

Expressing grave concern at the unprecedented number of people affected and displaced by humanitarian emergencies, including frequently protracted displacement resulting from humanitarian emergencies, which are increasing in number, scale and severity and are stretching humanitarian response capacities, recognizing the need for burden-sharing, and noting with appreciation efforts at the national and international levels that promote national capacity-building to address complex challenges in this regard,

Noting with great concern that violence, including sexual and gender-based violence and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in emergency situations and that civilians remain the main victims of violations of international humanitarian law committed by parties to armed conflicts,

Condemning all attacks, threats and other acts of violence against humanitarian personnel, including medical personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their facilities, equipment, transports and supplies, and expressing deep concern at the consequences of such attacks for the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected populations,

Emphasizing that building and strengthening resilience at the local, national and regional levels is critical to reducing the impact of disasters and vulnerabilities to hazards and, in this regard, while recognizing that building resilience is a long-term development process, stressing the need for enhanced investment in building national capacities for preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response, particularly in developing countries,

Recognizing the clear relationship between emergency response, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, emergency assistance will be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development and that emergency measures should be accompanied by development measures as a step towards the sustainable development of affected States, and in this regard highlighting the importance of closer cooperation between national stakeholders, including the private sector, as appropriate, and humanitarian and development actors,

Reaffirming that the specific needs and capacities of women, girls, men and boys of different ages, including persons with disabilities, must be mainstreamed into humanitarian assistance programming at all stages in a comprehensive and consistent manner,

Recognizing that Member States and the United Nations system need to continue their efforts, including through strengthening partnerships at all levels with relevant stakeholders, in support of national efforts, while ensuring that their collaborative efforts adhere to humanitarian principles,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁷⁵
2. *Encourages* United Nations humanitarian organizations and other relevant organizations, while strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, to continue to work in close coordination with national Governments, taking into account the primary role of the affected State in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of such assistance within its territory;
3. *Encourages* the United Nations to continue to strengthen coordination, preparedness and response efforts and to improve the quality and effectiveness of humanitarian action, including through enhancing complementarity with and between relevant stakeholders, such as affected Governments, regional organizations, donors, development organizations, civil society and the private sector, involved in response efforts to make use of their comparative advantages and resources;
4. *Stresses* that the United Nations system should continue to enhance existing humanitarian capacities, knowledge and institutions, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries, encourages the international community, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and organizations to support national authorities in their capacity-building programmes, including through technical cooperation and long-term partnerships, as well as by strengthening their capacity to build resilience, mitigate disaster risks and prepare for and respond to disasters, and also encourages Member States to create and strengthen an enabling environment for the capacity-building of their national and local authorities, national societies of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing timely humanitarian assistance;
5. *Encourages* humanitarian and development organizations, in consultation with Governments, to consider, where appropriate, common risk-management and resilience objectives, achievable through joint assessment, analysis, planning, programming and funding and increased investment in preparedness, conducted in line with humanitarian principles, in order to reduce suffering and losses and the overall impact of humanitarian crises, and in this regard emphasizes that transitions from humanitarian response to longer-term development need to be planned over a multi-year framework, as appropriate, and linked with development planning processes, while integrating key stakeholders, such as Governments, regional organizations and international financial institutions, as appropriate;
6. *Also encourages* humanitarian and development organizations to consider applying, in coordination with national authorities, risk-management tools in order to allow for better use of baseline information and risk analysis, including analysis of the underlying causes of crises, the different vulnerabilities of countries and regions and the risk exposures of affected populations, and in this regard notes the further development of established tools, such as the Index for Risk Management, to include more data disaggregated by sex, age and disability, and information regarding national and regional contexts, taking into account the environmental impact;
7. *Encourages* United Nations agencies and international organizations to continue to improve the humanitarian programme cycle, including the development of coordinated needs assessment tools, such as the multisector initial rapid assessment, in consultation with the affected States, in order to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian action and to ensure that humanitarian emergency risk analysis is embedded at the core of humanitarian strategic planning, encourages international humanitarian organizations and relevant actors to continue to work with national and local authorities as well as with civil society and affected populations, and recognizes the role of affected communities in identifying urgent needs and requirements in order to ensure an efficient response;
8. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015⁷⁶ and its areas of focus, including on enhancing disaster risk reduction, resilience and preparedness, in order to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;
9. *Encourages* Member States, as well as relevant regional and international organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to continue to support adaptation to the effects of climate change and to strengthen

⁷⁵ A/70/77-E/2015/64.

⁷⁶ General Assembly resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, especially for those countries that are particularly vulnerable;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to further strengthen their efforts in supporting national Governments in mapping emergency preparedness and response capacities at the country and regional levels, in order to better facilitate the complementarity of disaster response efforts between national and international capacities, and in this regard encourages Member States to promote, as appropriate, the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance and to integrate risk management into national development plans;

11. *Requests* Member States, relevant organizations and other relevant actors to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in all stages of humanitarian response through addressing the specific needs, challenges and coping capacities of women, girls, men and boys on an equal basis, taking into consideration age and disability, including through the improved collection, analysis, reporting and use of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability, and taking into account information provided by affected States, and to ensure the full participation of women in decision-making processes in order to increase the effectiveness of humanitarian action, and encourages greater use of the gender marker and other monitoring tools throughout the humanitarian programme cycle;

12. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure reliable and safe access to sexual and reproductive health-care services in order to protect women and adolescent girls and infants from preventable mortality and morbidity;

13. *Urges* Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of sexual and gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services for victims and survivors of such violence, and also calls for a more effective response in that regard;

14. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure that the basic humanitarian needs of affected populations, including clean water, food, shelter, health, including sexual and reproductive health, education and protection, are addressed as components of humanitarian response, including through providing timely and adequate resources, while ensuring that their collaborative efforts fully adhere to humanitarian principles;

15. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to continue to work together to understand and address the different protection needs of affected populations, particularly the most vulnerable, in humanitarian crises and ensure that these needs are adequately integrated into preparedness, response and recovery efforts;

16. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the steps necessary to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, including medical personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their facilities, equipment, transports and supplies operating within their borders, and in other territories under their effective control, requests the Secretary-General to expedite his efforts to enhance the safety and security of personnel involved in United Nations humanitarian operations, and urges Member States to ensure that perpetrators of crimes committed against humanitarian personnel on their territory or in other territories under their effective control are held accountable, as provided for by national laws and in accordance with their obligations under international law;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of ensuring safe and enabling learning environments and quality education in humanitarian emergencies, in particular for the well-being of all girls and boys, to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development, and in this regard reiterates the need to protect and respect educational facilities in accordance with international humanitarian law and strongly condemns all attacks directed against schools in contravention of international humanitarian law;

18. *Requests* Member States to strengthen their efforts to ensure better protection of and assistance for internally displaced persons, in particular to address the long-term nature of displacement, by adopting and implementing policies and strategies in accordance with national and regional frameworks, while recognizing the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement⁷⁷ as an important international framework for the protection of

⁷⁷ E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

internally displaced persons, and in this regard recognizes the central role of national and local authorities and institutions in addressing the specific needs of internally displaced persons and in finding solutions to displacement through, inter alia, continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for the capacity-building of States;

19. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant organizations and actors to recognize and address the consequences of humanitarian emergencies for migrants and to strengthen coordinated international efforts for their assistance and protection in concert with national authorities;

20. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to lead the efforts to strengthen the coordination, effectiveness and accountability of humanitarian assistance through, inter alia, continued and enhanced dialogue with Member States, including on the processes, activities and decisions of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and encourages Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental organizations and all other relevant actors to continue to work and improve cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to ensure effective and efficient delivery of the humanitarian response to affected people;

21. *Recognizes* that accountability is an integral part of effective humanitarian assistance, and emphasizes the need to enhance the accountability of humanitarian actors at all stages of humanitarian assistance;

22. *Calls upon* the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to enhance accountability to Member States, including affected States, and all other stakeholders, and to further strengthen humanitarian response efforts, including by monitoring and evaluating the provision of their humanitarian assistance, incorporating lessons learned into programming and consulting with the affected populations so that their needs are appropriately addressed;

23. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and humanitarian and development organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to support Member States, in particular developing countries, in promoting innovation through, inter alia, increasing investment in research and development leading to innovation and access to information and communications technologies, and to identify, promote and integrate best practices and lessons learned with regard to, inter alia, partnerships, procurement, collaboration and coordination between agencies and organizations, and in this regard notes the importance of promoting and supporting innovation and developing local capacities as a priority and welcomes innovative practices that draw on the knowledge of people affected by humanitarian emergencies to develop locally sustainable solutions and to produce life-saving items locally, with minimum logistical and infrastructure implications;

24. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflicts to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law;

25. *Calls upon* all States and parties to comply with the provisions of international humanitarian law, including all the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,⁷⁸ in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, in order to protect and assist civilians in occupied territories, and in this regard urges the international community and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen humanitarian assistance to civilians in those situations;

26. *Urges* all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance to fully commit to and duly respect the guiding principles contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/182, including the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality as well as the principle of independence, as recognized by the Assembly in its resolution 58/114 of 17 December 2003;

27. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment in order to allow humanitarian personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting affected civilian populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

28. *Requests* the United Nations to continue to identify solutions to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy appropriately senior, skilled and experienced humanitarian staff quickly and flexibly, giving paramount

⁷⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

consideration to the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, while paying due regard to gender equality and to recruiting on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard requests the Secretary General to address further the insufficient diversity in geographical representation and gender balance in the composition of humanitarian staff of the United Nations, in particular regarding professional and high-level staff;

29. *Encourages* efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination of United Nations humanitarian entities, other relevant humanitarian organizations and donor countries with the affected States, recognizes that humanitarian assistance should be provided in ways that are supportive of early recovery, sustainable rehabilitation, reconstruction and long-term development, and recalls that early recovery requires timely, effective and predictable funding through humanitarian and development financing, as appropriate, to meet enduring humanitarian, recovery and post-crises priorities while simultaneously building national and local capacities;

30. *Recognizes* that funding needs to be more flexible to allow for a complementary approach in order to effectively and sufficiently address the immediate needs of all affected populations in emergency situations, including for underfunded and forgotten emergencies and those of a long-term nature, and the underlying causes of crises, and encourages Member States, the United Nations system, the private sector and other relevant entities to provide adequate funding and investment in preparedness and resilience-building, including from humanitarian and development budgets, as well as unearmarked core funding and flexible funding for multi-year appeals, in order to bridge the divide between humanitarian and development financing;

31. *Stresses* the need to enhance resource mobilization efforts to address the increasing capacity and resource gap, including through additional contributions from non-traditional donors, exploring innovative mechanisms, such as the utilization of risk-informed anticipatory decision-making, flexible funding for multi-year appeals through existing tools such as consolidated and flash appeals, the Central Emergency Response Fund and other funds, such as the country-based pooled funds, and to continue to broaden partnerships and the donor base in order to increase the predictability and effectiveness of funding, and to promote South-South and horizontal and triangular cooperation globally, and in this regard encourages, as appropriate, Member States to contribute to the humanitarian appeals brought forward by the United Nations;

32. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to hold the first World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2016, aimed at sharing knowledge and best practices in the humanitarian field to improve the coordination, capacity and effectiveness of humanitarian response, and requests the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue to ensure an inclusive, consultative and transparent preparatory process that includes the participation and contributions of Member States and stakeholders in the process and outcome of the Summit, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to further engage with Member States in the process and outcome of the Summit;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution in his next report to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

34. *Requests* the Presidents of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly to continue their efforts with a view to eliminating duplication between the resolutions of the Council and the Assembly on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, while promoting their complementarity.

*40th plenary meeting
19 June 2015*

2015/15. Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions [67/226](#) of 21 December 2012, [68/229](#) of 20 December 2013 and [69/238](#) of 19 December 2014 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2013/5 of 12 July 2013 and 2014/14 of 14 July 2014, in which key system-wide policy orientations were established for development cooperation at both the Headquarters and the country levels,

Reaffirming the importance of the timely and full implementation of the system-wide policy orientations established in General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling the critical role of the Council in providing coordination, monitoring and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented in a full and timely manner on a system-wide basis in accordance with the present resolution and General Assembly resolutions [48/162](#) of 20 December 1993, [50/227](#) of 24 May 1996, [57/270 B](#) of 23 June 2003, [61/16](#) of 20 November 2006, [65/285](#) of 29 June 2011, [67/226](#) and [68/1](#) of 20 September 2013,

Reaffirming that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

Recognizing the importance and the catalytic role of predictable official development assistance for international development,

Introduction

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;⁷⁹

2. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and all relevant entities, to improve the comprehensiveness and coherence of the monitoring and reporting framework for the implementation of General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, which contributes to a better understanding of annual progress and gaps in its implementation;

3. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to make every effort to improve monitoring and data collection methods with a view to contributing towards further enhancement of the analytical quality of the report of the Secretary-General on operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

4. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the United Nations development system to provide quality inputs and appropriate updates to the report of the Secretary-General with a view to continuing to improve evidence-based, high-quality analytical reporting on the operational activities for development, address challenges and contribute to enhancing the implementation of system-wide mandates, while stressing the need to minimize transaction costs associated with reporting;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations Development Group and the High-level Committee on Management fully align their efforts to monitor the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review and align their work in the area of operational activities for development with the review, and in this regard notes their respective action plans on the harmonization of business practices, and requests the Secretary-General to include a comprehensive update on such efforts, including challenges faced, in his report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the review;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations funds and programmes that have not already done so to consolidate their annual reporting on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review within their reporting on the implementation of their strategic plans;

7. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to improve the quality of their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council;

8. *Urges* entities of the United Nations development system with operational activities for development that have not done so to fully align their strategic plans and their strategic planning and budgeting cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, taking into account their respective mandates;

⁷⁹ [A/70/62-E/2015/4](#).

Funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

9. *Reiterates* that core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and in this regard recognizes the need for the organizations to address, on a continuous basis, the imbalance between core and non-core resources and to report to the Council in 2016, as part of their regular reporting, on the measures taken to address this imbalance;

10. *Notes* that the majority of the increase in funding for the United Nations development system between 1998 and 2013 was in the form of non-core resources, resulting in an imbalance between core and non-core resources, and notes with concern that the percentage of core resources in the overall funding for operational activities continued to decline, representing only 25 per cent in 2013;

11. *Also notes* that non-core resources represent an important contribution to the overall resource base of the United Nations development system and complement core resources in supporting operational activities for development, thereby contributing to an increase in total resources, while noting the need to make non-core resources more flexible, more predictable and better aligned with strategic plans and national priorities and recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources;

12. *Recognizes* that non-core resources pose challenges, in particular restricted earmarked funding such as single-donor project-specific funding, by potentially increasing transaction costs, fragmentation, competition and overlap among entities and providing disincentives for pursuing an Organization-wide focus, strategic positioning and coherence, and may also potentially distort programme priorities regulated by intergovernmental bodies and processes;

13. *Notes with concern*, in this regard, that contributions to pooled funding arrangements, such as thematic funds of entities and United Nations multi-partner trust funds and joint programmes, accounted for only 8 per cent of non-core resource flows to development-related activities in 2013, and encourages all contributors of non-core resources to expand the use of less-restricted earmarked funding arrangements;

14. *Notes* the initiatives launched by the United Nations development system through the United Nations Development Group, in line with General Assembly resolution [67/226](#), aimed at further strengthening the use and management of joint funding mechanisms and approaches in order to improve the quality of non-core resources, and urges the United Nations development system to ensure that non-core resources are fully aligned with national needs and priorities and with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

15. *Recalls* the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) with respect to taking concrete measures to broaden the donor base, and reiterates its requests to the United Nations funds and programmes, and encourages the specialized agencies, to report annually as part of their regular reporting to their governing bodies on concrete measures taken to broaden the donor base and increase the number of countries and other partners making contributions to the United Nations development system in order to reduce the reliance of the system on a limited number of donors;

16. *Notes* the contributions from various sources of funding for development-related activities in 2013, as well as the increase since 2007 of development-related contributions from multilateral organizations, global funds and non-governmental and private sources;

17. *Notes with concern* that the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) with respect to the development and operationalization of the concept of critical mass of core resources was not fulfilled as originally foreseen, notes the adoption in 2014 by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services of decisions 2014/24 and 2014/25 and the adoption by the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund of decision 2014/17, in which they noted common principles for the concept of critical mass of resources and core resources, requests the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund to consult further with Member States on ways to ensure a critical mass of core resources, for consideration and action during the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016, and reiterates the request to the United Nations funds and programmes that have not yet done so to define common principles for the concept of critical mass of core resources, which may include the level of resources adequate to respond to the needs of programme countries and to produce the results expected in the strategic plans, including administrative, management and programme costs, in consultation with Member States, with a view to a decision by their respective governing bodies in 2016;

18. *Calls upon* United Nations country teams to adopt as a practice the use of common budgetary frameworks as soon as possible, which would not constitute a legal constraint on resource spending authority, and requests United Nations funds and programmes and encourages the specialized agencies to continue to provide the necessary information on contributions to the resident coordinators upon agreement with programme countries, improve the timeliness and quality of information provided and ensure that the common budgetary framework is a useful and effective instrument for strengthening the quality of system-wide resource planning in support of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

19. *Stresses* the need to avoid the use of core/regular resources to subsidize non-core/extrabudgetary activities, reaffirms that the guiding principle governing the financing of all non-programme costs should be full cost recovery, proportionally, from core and non-core funding sources, and in this regard looks forward to the independent and external assessment of the consistency and alignment of the new cost-recovery methodology with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, agreed by the executive boards of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to be performed in 2016;

20. *Takes note* of decisions 2014/24 and 2014/25 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services, 2014/17 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund and 2014/6 of the Executive Board of UN-Women on the organization of structured dialogues with Member States on ways to finance the development results agreed in the strategic planning cycle of the respective entities, and in this regard requests the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes and the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, as appropriate, to organize such structured dialogues on an annual basis, as part of their regular meeting schedule, with a view to making non-core resources more predictable and less restricted/earmarked, broadening the donor base and improving the adequacy and predictability of resource flows;

21. *Welcomes* the progress made by the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to ensure that available and projected core and non-core resources are consolidated within an integrated budgetary framework, based on the priorities of their respective strategic plans, and encourages all agencies that have not already done so to develop such integrated frameworks in their next budget cycle;

Contribution of the operational activities of the United Nations to national capacity development and development effectiveness

22. *Reaffirms* the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2013/5 and 2014/14 with respect to the request to the United Nations development system to develop, for the consideration of Member States, a common approach for measuring progress in capacity development, including measures to ensure long-term impact, as well as specific frameworks aimed at enabling programme countries, upon their request, to design, monitor and evaluate results in the development of their capacity to achieve national development goals and strategies, notes the work under way by the United Nations Development Group in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General to include, in his report on the implementation of Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016, information on steps taken in this regard;

23. *Notes* that national monitoring and reporting systems and national procurement, financial and evaluation capacities have been underused, and in this regard reiterates the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) that the United Nations development system make increased use of national public and private systems for support services as a means of strengthening national capacities and reducing transaction costs;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review to the Council in 2016, in consultation with Member States, information on steps taken by entities of the United Nations development system to strengthen and use national capacities, including ensuring the long-term impact of capacities built, and to make proposals to address any obstacles and challenges;

25. *Requests* the funds and programmes of the United Nations development system and invites the specialized agencies to consider the findings and observations related to national capacity gaps repeatedly highlighted by programme countries to be addressed through the work of the operational activities for development

of the United Nations system, including through the strengthening and use of national capacities, and to report to their governing bodies in 2016 with recommendations for implementation in this regard;

Poverty eradication

26. *Welcomes* the integration of poverty eradication, as the overarching priority, into the strategic plans of some United Nations system organizations, in accordance with their mandates;

27. *Reaffirms* that the eradication of poverty is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development in developing countries, particularly in Africa, and underlines the importance of accelerating sustainable, broad-based, inclusive and equitable economic growth for the benefit of all people and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

28. *Also reaffirms* the call by the General Assembly, contained in its resolution [67/226](#), for the organizations of the United Nations development system to assign the highest priority to the eradication of poverty, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes to include in their regular reporting to the Council information on steps taken, in accordance with their mandates, on the scaling up of efforts to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger, sharing of good practices, lessons learned, strategies, programmes and policies, inter alia, capacity-building, employment generation, education, vocational training, rural development and the mobilization of resources, which aim at achieving poverty eradication and promoting the active participation of those living in poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies;

29. *Notes* the ongoing efforts made by the United Nations development system to support programme countries in the eradication of poverty, including through the use of the Millennium Development Goals Acceleration Framework by some United Nations country teams, and as part of efforts by the Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force to strengthen coordination on acceleration of the Millennium Development Goals;

South-South cooperation

30. *Stresses* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

31. *Recalls* the request contained in General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on strengthening South-South cooperation, and reaffirms in this regard decision [18/1](#) of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation,⁸⁰ which contains, inter alia, measures to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation, including through improved allocation of resources across the United Nations development system, including the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation;

32. *Notes* the continued demand of programme countries for United Nations support for South-South cooperation, reiterates in this regard its request to the heads of the specialized agencies, United Nations funds and programmes and regional commissions to pay special attention to the implementation of projects related to South-South cooperation, including those managed or supported by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and requests the Secretary-General, as part of his regular reporting to the Council, to provide an update on progress in this regard;

33. *Also notes*, in this regard, the efforts to improve reporting on and evaluation of support to South-South cooperation as a specific modality, as well as the progress made by some entities of the United Nations development system in mainstreaming South-South and triangular cooperation into their key policies, strategic frameworks, operational activities and budgets, while emphasizing the need to overcome the obstacles facing the scaling up of United Nations support for South-South cooperation;

34. *Further notes* that further deliberation by Member States on the option presented by the Secretary-General in his report on measures to further strengthen the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation⁸¹ will be required, and in this regard looks forward to the presentation by the Secretary-General of his comprehensive proposal to the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation;

⁸⁰ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 39 (A/69/39)*, chap. I.

⁸¹ [SSC/18/3](#).

35. *Recalls* the request contained in decision 18/1 of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation to the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as Chair of the United Nations Development Group, to establish a more formalized and strengthened inter-agency mechanism coordinated by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, with a view to encouraging joint support for South-South and triangular initiatives, as well as sharing information on development activities and results achieved by various organizations through their respective business models in support of South-South and triangular cooperation, calls upon the United Nations development system to designate representational focal points to join the mechanism, and requests the Administrator to give the Office the opportunity to be represented more regularly in strategic and coordination mechanisms of the Development Group when matters affecting South-South and triangular cooperation are being discussed;

36. *Takes note*, in this regard, of the establishment of the South-South and Triangular Cooperation Task Team and its terms of reference, and requests the full completion of its mandate by the end of 2016;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultation with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, to present, as part of his report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016, recommendations based on a thorough analysis of incentives for and challenges to the scaling up of United Nations support for South-South and triangular cooperation as well as the Office for South-South Cooperation, including lessons learned from the implementation of successful South-South and triangular cooperation projects and programmes;

38. *Calls upon* the funds, programmes and agencies that have not done so to undertake evaluations and assessments of South-South cooperation with a view to informing their institutional policies and strategies and to ensuring that the solutions and expertise of the South are integrated in the United Nations operational activities in an effective and efficient manner;

39. *Reaffirms* the call in paragraph 77 of General Assembly resolution 67/226 for all countries in a position to do so, as well as other stakeholders, to increase their support for South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, especially by providing technical assistance and mobilizing financial resources on a sustainable basis, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes to clarify for Member States, as part of their regular briefings, the role of all stakeholders and the action taken so far by such entities in this regard;

Gender equality and women's empowerment

40. *Notes with appreciation* the progress of entities of the United Nations development system in implementing mandates contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on gender equality and women's empowerment, including on the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and requests those entities of the United Nations development system that have not already done so to accelerate efforts to implement the Action Plan with a view to meeting its performance standards by 2017;

41. *Reaffirms* the requests contained in resolution 67/226 to the United Nations development system to enhance gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system and to expand the use of the United Nations country team performance indicators for gender equality and the empowerment of women (the "scorecard") as a planning and reporting tool for use by country teams in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, and welcomes the global review of the gender scorecard tool being undertaken by the United Nations development system;

Transition from relief to development

42. *Reaffirms* the request contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 to the United Nations development system to accelerate progress in deepening coordination between Secretariat entities and members of the United Nations development system, inter alia, through the simplification and harmonization of programming instruments and processes and business practices, with a view to providing effective, efficient and responsive support to national efforts in countries in transition from relief to development, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his regular reporting to the Council comprehensive and evidence-based updates on progress and challenges in this regard;

43. *Notes* the importance of transparency and consultation with Member States in the context of operational activities for development on the implementation of the policy on integrated assessment and planning and the policy on United Nations transitions in the context of mission drawdown or withdrawal, as approved by the Secretary-General and the Integration Steering Group, stresses the need in this regard for transitional activities from relief to sustainable development to be undertaken under national ownership, and requests the Secretary-General to share information with and seek views of Member States on the interlinkages between operational activities for development of the United Nations development system and the implementation and review of those elements of these policies which relate to operational activities for development of the United Nations development system;

44. *Also notes* that the United Nations development system continues to strengthen its efforts in disaster risk reduction, including in organization-wide strategic frameworks and in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

45. *Urges* the United Nations development system to ensure that its support to recovery serves to bridge short-term emergency response and long-term development efforts by paying due attention to social, economic and environmental dimensions of development needed for full recovery and for strengthening resilience leading to sustainable development, inter alia, by prioritizing tools, including but not limited to local procurement, cash transfers and social safety nets, where appropriate;

46. *Takes note* of the increased coordination between United Nations country teams and the Bretton Woods institutions in countries in transition from relief to development, and calls upon the country teams to continue to strengthen such coordination at the strategic level, including joint assessments, planning and results frameworks, funding mechanisms and staff secondment;

47. *Recognizes* the need for the United Nations development system, as requested, to support inclusive country-level and country-owned transition from relief to development in countries affected by natural disasters or conflict, based on country-led assessments, and underlines the importance of building strong partnerships by providing aid and managing resources more effectively and aligning these resources for results, in line with country priorities, and by enhancing transparency, risk management and the use of country systems, strengthening national capacities and the timeliness of aid and improving the speed and predictability of funding to achieve better results, while underlining the importance of thorough planning and coordination between the United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and the Secretariat, within their respective mandates, to better respond to the needs and priorities of the affected States;

United Nations Development Assistance Framework

48. *Stresses* the importance of regular reporting from the United Nations development system at the country level, requests in this regard United Nations country teams to comply strictly with existing reporting requirements, namely those regarding the once per cycle progress report on the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the evaluation report on the Development Assistance Framework in all programme countries, and, in addition, annual country results reports and evaluation reports in “Delivering as one” countries to programme country Governments, also requests United Nations country teams to share with programme country Governments, where available, all country progress reports, reviews and evaluations, and further requests that information on compliance be included in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016;

49. *Requests* the United Nations development system to ensure that reports to the Governments of programme countries are structured around the United Nations Development Assistance Framework or common planning framework outcomes, are linked to national development results and inform the Governments of programme countries of the results achieved by the United Nations country team as a whole, and requests the Secretary-General, as part of his regular reporting to the Council, to provide an update on progress in this regard;

50. *Also requests* the United Nations development system to improve the balance of effective and efficient reporting on contributions to national results, the outcomes of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework or other common planning frameworks and the strategic plan outcomes of individual agencies, and requests the Secretary-General, as part of his regular reporting to the Council, to provide an update on progress in this regard;

Resident coordinator system

51. *Acknowledges* that the resident coordinator system, encompassing all organizations of the United Nations system dealing with operational activities for development, aims at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of operational activities at the country level through the promotion of more strategic support for national plans and priorities, makes operations more efficient and reduces transaction costs for Governments;

52. *Notes* progress made in strengthening the capacity of resident coordinator offices with a view to enhancing the coherence and effectiveness at the country level through improved access of the resident coordinator offices to the expertise and technical resources available within the United Nations development system, and in this regard calls for further measures to address particular challenges for resident coordinators/humanitarian coordinators working in countries in transition from relief to development, in order to improve performance and effectiveness;

53. *Reiterates* the importance of the cost-sharing agreement for the resident coordinator system, notes in this regard progress achieved in implementing the cost-sharing agreement for the resident coordinator system, notes the funding gap expected for the resident coordinator system for 2015, in this regard strongly requests entities of the United Nations development system that have not already done so to take appropriate actions to implement the agreement, subject to the approval of their governing bodies and without impacting programme delivery, including by paying their contribution in full, noting that the General Assembly has yet to approve the contribution of the Secretariat to the agreement, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to include in his regular reporting to the Council updates on agency-specific progress in this regard;

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with a view to the funding gap expected for the resident coordinator system, and in consultation with all entities of the United Nations development system, to make proposals to the Council at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2016 on ways to further develop the cost-sharing agreement in order to address the effective needs of the system, as part of his regular reporting;

55. *Notes* the broadened and strengthened leadership role of the resident coordinator as defined in the updated generic job description for this position, and underscores the need, as appropriate, to enable the resident coordinator to fill that role, inter alia, by strengthening the capacity of resident coordinator offices and through the effectiveness of the functional firewall between the resident coordinator and the resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme;

56. *Also notes* the progress by United Nations entities in institutionalizing the management and accountability system of the resident coordinator system, requests United Nations entities that have not yet fully implemented the management and accountability system to do so as a matter of priority, and requests all funds and programmes, and encourages all specialized agencies, to include the formal input of the resident coordinator in the performance appraisals of their agency representatives;

57. *Reaffirms* the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) with respect to the resident coordinator system, reaffirms the importance of achieving diversification in the composition of the resident coordinator system in terms of geographical distribution and gender, also reaffirms the importance of the participation of all agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system on an equal footing in the resident coordinator system, requests the Secretary-General to make every effort in this regard to ensure the full application of these principles in the appointment of resident coordinators, notes the establishment in May 2014 of the new Resident Coordinator Assessment Centre, in this regard encourages all agencies to nominate qualified candidates for the Centre, and requests the United Nations development system to continue to identify solutions in order to strengthen its ability to efficiently recruit and deploy experienced resident coordinators at the appropriate level of seniority who meet the highest standards of integrity;

“Delivering as one”

58. *Reaffirms* that the “no one size fits all” approach and the principle of the voluntary adoption of the “Delivering as one” approach should be maintained so that the United Nations system can tailor its approach to partnership with the individual programme countries in a way that best suits their national needs, realities, priorities and planning modalities;

59. *Welcomes* the release of the standard operating procedures for countries adopting the “Delivering as one” approach and the integrated package of support for implementation by country teams, and in this regard

requests the United Nations funds and programmes, and strongly encourages the specialized agencies, to take appropriate actions to fully and coherently implement the standard operating procedures, including the United Nations Development Group Plan of Action for Headquarters, and to report annually on progress in this regard at the annual meeting of their respective governing bodies;

60. *Notes with appreciation* progress in addressing Headquarters-level bottlenecks to implementing the “Delivering as one” approach, and requests the United Nations development system to resolve remaining bottlenecks and challenges in order to ensure full implementation of “Delivering as one” in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders;

61. *Recognizes* that pooled funding mechanisms are important tools in advancing “Delivering as one” in countries wishing to adopt this approach, and encourages donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to prioritize the use of such mechanisms in order to maximize the impact of the “Delivering as one” reforms in those countries;

62. *Notes* that the concept of “operating as one” has progressed in some areas, and urges the United Nations Development Group and the High-level Committee on Management to take the appropriate measures to accelerate progress in fully operationalizing the concept of “operating as one”, including by bringing to scale common services based on successful field practices;

Regional dimensions

63. *Notes* the improvements in collaboration between regional United Nations Development Group teams and regional coordination mechanisms, and in this regard requests regional teams and regional coordination mechanisms to continue to strengthen their support to United Nations country teams, including in the formulation of development assistance frameworks and on priority regional or subregional issues of relevance, and in line with national Government priorities;

Simplification and harmonization of business practices

64. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to accelerate the implementation of the system-wide action plans of the United Nations Development Group and the High-level Committee on Management for the simplification and harmonization of business practices and to report on progress made to their respective executive boards in 2015;

65. *Notes* the updates from the United Nations funds and programmes on progress made on the common definition of operating costs and a common and standardized system of cost control, paying due attention to their different business models, and requests further updates to their respective executive boards as appropriate, with a view to taking a decision on this issue in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016;

66. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its substantive session of 2016, as part of his regular reporting, on the achievement of the full system-wide interoperability of enterprise resource planning systems in 2016 in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

67. *Calls upon* all relevant members of the system to participate in the piloting and possible establishment of national and/or multi-country common service centres, with the objective that such centres provide long-term and system-wide cost savings while ensuring higher or equal quality of services and, within their mandates, ensuring that efficiency savings are used for programme activities with a view to building national capacities in programme countries;

68. *Notes* that some entities of the United Nations development system are establishing agency-specific regional or global service centres, and in this regard urges that this practice not detract from the piloting and possible establishment of national and/or multi-country common service centres;

69. *Encourages* all United Nations country teams to develop country-level business operation strategies, and recognizes that it is essential to ensure that United Nations country teams, including specialized agencies, are made accountable for the design and implementation of such strategies, including United Nations common service centres or units, that are harmonized, cost-efficient, and tailored to their country-specific requirements and that enhance programme quality;

Results-based management

70. *Requests* the United Nations development system, in the context of strengthening results-based management and reporting at the United Nations country team level, including reporting to Governments of programme countries, to develop common approaches and definitions with regard to measuring results and to harmonize indicators where possible, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to update the Council at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2016, as part of his regular reporting;

71. *Also requests* the United Nations development system to ensure that its results-based management systems are not developed in isolation from national systems, and in this regard requests the United Nations development system to engage closely with national Governments on results-based management and with respect to the ways in which the results achieved by United Nations development assistance activities at the national level are defined, measured and reported on, and, upon request, to provide support to those Governments and partner institutions that wish to introduce or adapt results-based management as part of their monitoring and statistical systems;

Evaluation of operational activities for development

72. *Recalls* the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 68/229 that two pilot independent system-wide evaluations should be conducted in 2014 on the themes set out therein, subject to the provision and availability of extrabudgetary resources, calls for the acceleration of progress, reiterates its invitation to countries in a position to do so to contribute extrabudgetary resources for the effective and accelerated implementation of these evaluations in 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an update to the Council on progress in the implementation of the evaluations at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2016;

Follow-up

73. *Requests* all entities of the United Nations development system to ensure consistency and alignment with the post-2015 development agenda, once adopted, in the context of midterm reviews and the elaboration of strategic plans and frameworks;

74. *Recalls* its resolution 2014/14, and welcomes the launch of the transparent and inclusive dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system and the sessions held since December 2014;

75. *Welcomes* the road map for continuing the dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system in 2015 and 2016 involving Member States and all relevant stakeholders, including the proposed workshops and retreats, which will consider the interlinkages between the alignment of functions, funding practices, governance structures, including proposals for the reform of their composition and functioning, capacity and impact of the United Nations development system, partnership approaches and organizational arrangements, and looks forward to this dialogue being reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review to be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration and action by Member States during the seventy-first session of the Assembly in 2016.

*41st plenary meeting
29 June 2015*

2015/16. Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General⁸² and the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council containing the information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,⁸³

⁸² A/70/64.

⁸³ E/2015/65.

Having heard the statement by the representative of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,⁸⁴

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, the resolutions of the Special Committee and other relevant resolutions and decisions, including, in particular, Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/25 of 16 July 2014,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV),

Welcoming the current participation, in their capacity as observers, of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of the regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social sphere, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, they face special challenges in planning for and implementing sustainable development, and that they will be constrained in meeting those challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the resources necessary for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all the major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in that regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance for the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various decisions of the United Nations relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [69/107](#) of 5 December 2014, entitled “Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples”,

⁸⁴ See [E/2015/SR.50](#).

1. *Takes note* of the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council,⁸³ and endorses the observations and suggestions arising therefrom;
2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁸²
3. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts within the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;
4. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;
5. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples, on a case-by-case basis;
6. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;
7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Non-Self-Governing Territory so that they may take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories on a case-by-case basis;
8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible on a case-by-case basis;
9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and to formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories on a case-by-case basis, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;
10. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned and on a case-by-case basis, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit those proposals to their governing and legislative organs;
11. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review, at the regular meetings of their governing bodies, the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;
12. *Recalls* the preparation by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, of an informational leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and its updated online version, and requests that they be disseminated as widely as possible;
13. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining a close liaison between the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;
14. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

15. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that they may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

16. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts within the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on a case-by-case basis;

17. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 2015 of the Economic and Social Council;

18. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on 16 May 1998 of its resolution 574 (XXVII),⁸⁵ in which the Commission called for the mechanisms necessary for its associate members, including the Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in the special sessions of the Assembly convened to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories had originally participated in their capacity as observers, and in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies;

19. *Requests* the President of the Council to continue to maintain close contact on those matters with the Chair of the Special Committee and to report thereon to the Council;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow up on the implementation of the present resolution, paying particular attention to cooperation and integration arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system, and to report thereon to the Council at its 2016 session;

21. *Decides* to keep the above questions under continuous review.

*50th plenary meeting
20 July 2015*

2015/17. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions [69/241](#) of 19 December 2014 and [69/92](#) of 5 December 2014,

Recalling also its resolution 2014/26 of 16 July 2014,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 252 (1968) of 21 May 1968, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497(1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling the resolutions of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, including ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003, ES-10/14 of 8 December 2003, ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Taking note of the report by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan, as transmitted by the Secretary-General,⁸⁶

⁸⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21 (E/1998/41)*, chap. III, sect. G

⁸⁶ A/70/82-E/2015/13.

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,⁸⁷ to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁸⁸ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights⁸⁸ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁸⁹ and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

Taking note, in this regard, of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions as well as other international treaties,

Taking note also of General Assembly resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Stressing the urgency of achieving, without delay, an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement on all tracks on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004 and 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008, the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative⁹⁰ and the Quartet road map,⁹¹ as well as compliance with the agreements reached between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources, and expressing concern in that regard about the exploitation of natural resources by Israel, the occupying Power, and Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, particularly as a result of settlement activities, which are illegal under international law and which, deplorably, continued during the reporting period,

Convinced that the Israeli occupation has gravely impeded the efforts to achieve sustainable development and a sound economic environment in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and expressing grave concern about the consequent deterioration of economic and living conditions,

Expressing alarm, in this regard, about the extremely high levels of unemployment in the Gaza Strip in particular, which, according to World Bank estimates, is 43 per cent, with youth unemployment reaching 60 per cent, and is exacerbated by the prolonged Israeli closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, and about the continuing negative repercussions of the military operations in the Gaza Strip on economic and social infrastructure and living conditions,

Commending the efforts of the Palestinian Government, despite the many constraints, to improve the economic and social situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, especially in the areas of governance, the rule of law and human rights, livelihoods and productive sectors, education and culture, health, social protection, infrastructure and water, and welcoming in this regard the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, launched on 15 August 2013, which aims at, inter alia, enhancing developmental support and assistance to the Palestinian people and strengthening institutional capacity in line with Palestinian national priorities,

Gravely concerned about the accelerated construction of settlements and the implementation of other related measures by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in and around occupied East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan, in violation of international humanitarian law and relevant United Nations resolutions,

Encouraging all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies to ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlements,

⁸⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

⁸⁸ See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁸⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

⁹⁰ A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

⁹¹ S/2003/529, annex.

Taking note of the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,⁹²

Expressing deep concern about the rising incidence of violence, harassment, provocation, vandalism and incitement in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in particular by illegal armed Israeli settlers against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their properties, including homes, historic and religious sites, and agricultural lands, and calling for accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated in this regard,

Gravely concerned by the serious repercussions on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people caused by Israel's construction of the wall and its associated regime inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and the resulting violation of their economic and social rights, including the rights to work, to health, to education, to property, to an adequate standard of living and to freedom of access and movement,

Recalling, in this regard, the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory⁹³ and General Assembly resolution ES-10/15, and stressing the need to comply with the obligations mentioned therein,

Expressing grave concern at the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of properties, including the increased demolition of homes, economic institutions, historical landmarks, agricultural lands and orchards, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in particular in connection with its construction of settlements and the wall and confiscation of land, contrary to international law, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem,

Expressing grave concern also over the continuing forced displacement and dispossession of Palestinian civilians, including the Bedouin community, due to the continuing and intensifying policy of home demolitions, evictions and revocation of residency rights in and around occupied East Jerusalem, as well as measures to further isolate the city from its natural Palestinian environs, which have seriously exacerbated the already critical socioeconomic situation being faced by the Palestinian population,

Expressing grave concern further about ongoing Israeli military operations and policies of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, the imposition of crossing closures, checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent negative impact on the socioeconomic situation of the Palestinian people, in particular the Palestine refugee population, which remains that of a humanitarian crisis,

Expressing grave concern, in particular, over the continuing crisis in the Gaza Strip as a result of the prolonged Israeli closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, stressing that the situation is unsustainable, and calling in that regard for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 with a view to ensuring the full opening of the border crossings for the sustained and regular movement of persons and goods, including humanitarian aid, commercial flows and construction materials, and emphasizing the need for security for all civilian populations,

Deploring the conflict in and around the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014 and the civilian casualties caused, including the killing and injury of thousands of Palestinian civilians, including children, women and the elderly, the widespread destruction of or damage to thousands of homes and vital civilian infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, water, sanitation and electricity networks, economic, industrial and agricultural properties, public institutions, religious sites and United Nations schools and facilities, as well as the internal displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians, and any violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, in this regard,

Gravely concerned about the consequent prolonged and extensive negative impact of the military operations in July and August 2014, as well as between December 2008 and January 2009 and in November 2012, on economic conditions, the provision of social services and the social, humanitarian and physical living conditions of the Palestinian civilian population, including the Palestine refugee population,

⁹² A/HRC/22/63.

⁹³ See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

Recalling, in this regard, the relevant United Nations reports, including those of the Economic and Social Council, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Human Rights Council,

Expressing deep concern about the short- and long-term detrimental impact of such widespread destruction and the hampering of the reconstruction process, by Israel, the occupying Power, on the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip, where the humanitarian crisis continues to deepen, and calling in that regard for the immediate acceleration of the reconstruction process in the Gaza Strip with the assistance of the donor countries, including the disbursement of funds pledged at the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014,

Gravely concerned at various reports of the United Nations and specialized agencies regarding the substantial aid dependency caused by prolonged border closures, inordinate rates of unemployment, widespread poverty and severe humanitarian hardships, including food insecurity and rising health-related problems, including high levels of malnutrition, among the Palestinian people, especially children, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing grave concern at the deaths and injuries caused to civilians, including children, women and peaceful demonstrators, and emphasizing that the Palestinian civilian population must be protected in accordance with international humanitarian law,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all civilians, and calling for the cessation of all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, and all firing of rockets,

Expressing deep concern that thousands of Palestinians, including many children and women, continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres, subject to harsh conditions, including unhygienic conditions, solitary confinement, excessive use of administrative detention, lack of proper medical care and widespread medical neglect, including for prisoners who are ill, with the risk of fatal consequences, and the denial of family visits and of due process, that impair their well-being, and expressing deep concern also about any ill-treatment and harassment of Palestinian prisoners and detainees and all reports of torture, while taking note of the agreement reached in May 2012 on conditions of detention in Israeli prisons and calling for its full and immediate implementation,

Conscious of the urgent need for the reconstruction and development of the economic and social infrastructure of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as the urgent need to address the humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people, including by ensuring the unimpeded provision of humanitarian assistance and the sustained and regular flow of persons and goods into and out of the Gaza Strip,

Recognizing the efforts by the Palestinian Government, with international support, to rebuild, reform and strengthen its damaged institutions and promote good governance, emphasizing the need to preserve the Palestinian national institutions and infrastructure, and commending in this regard the ongoing efforts to develop the institutions of an independent Palestinian State, including through the implementation of the Palestinian National Development Plan 2011–2013 on governance, economy, social development and infrastructure, and the significant achievements made, as confirmed by the positive assessments made by international institutions regarding readiness for statehood, including by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations and the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, while also expressing concern about the negative impact of the current financial crisis being faced by the Palestinian Government,

Commending, in this regard, the important work being done by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the donor community in support of the economic and social development of the Palestinian people in line with their national development and State-building plan, as well as the vital assistance being provided in the humanitarian field,

Welcoming the formation of the new Palestinian Government of national consensus under the authority of President Mahmoud Abbas, in line with the Quartet principles, emphasizing the need for the respect and preservation of the territorial integrity and unity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and affirming the need to support the Palestinian Government of national consensus in its assumption of full government responsibilities in all fields in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip,

Calling upon both parties to fulfil their obligations under the road map in cooperation with the Quartet,

Aware that development and fostering healthy economic and social conditions are difficult under occupation and best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

1. *Calls for* the full opening of the border crossings of the Gaza Strip, in line with Security Council resolution 1860 (2009), to ensure humanitarian access as well as the sustained and regular flow of persons and goods and the lifting of all movement restrictions imposed on the Palestinian people, including those restrictions arising from ongoing Israeli military operations and the multilayered closure system, and for other urgent measures to be taken to alleviate the serious humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which is dire in the Gaza Strip, and calls for compliance by Israel, the occupying Power, with all of its legal obligations under international humanitarian law and United Nations resolutions in that regard;
2. *Stresses* the need to preserve the territorial contiguity, unity and integrity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as to and from the outside world;
3. *Also stresses* the need to preserve and develop Palestinian national institutions and infrastructure for the provision of vital public services to the Palestinian civilian population and to contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights, including economic and social rights;
4. *Demands* that Israel comply with the Protocol on Economic Relations between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization signed in Paris on 29 April 1994;⁹⁴
5. *Calls upon* Israel to restore and replace civilian properties, vital infrastructure, agricultural lands and governmental institutions that have been damaged or destroyed as a result of its military operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;
6. *Reiterates the call* for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access of 15 November 2005, particularly the urgent and uninterrupted reopening of all crossings into the Gaza Strip, which is crucial to ensuring the passage of foodstuffs and essential supplies, including construction materials and adequate fuel supplies, as well as to ensuring the unhindered access of the United Nations and related agencies and regular commercial flows necessary for economic recovery to and within the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and emphasizes the need for security for all civilian populations;
7. *Calls upon* all parties to respect the rules of international humanitarian law and to refrain from violence against the civilian population, in accordance with the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;⁸⁷
8. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan to all their natural and economic resources, and calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, endanger or cause loss or depletion of those resources;
9. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its destruction of homes and properties, economic institutions and agricultural lands and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan, and to prevent Israeli settlers from perpetrating such illegal activities;
10. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to end immediately its exploitation of natural resources, including water and mining resources, and to cease the dumping of all kinds of waste materials in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely, the water, land and energy resources, and present a serious environmental hazard and health threat to the civilian populations, and also calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to remove all obstacles that obstruct the implementation of critical environmental projects, including the sewage treatment plants in the Gaza Strip, notably the provision of the electrical power needed for the work of the northern Gaza emergency sewage treatment project, and stresses in this regard the urgency of the reconstruction and development of water infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip;
11. *Calls for* the assistance necessary for the safe removal of all unexploded ordnance in the Gaza Strip, which endangers Palestinian lives and has a negative impact on the environment and on reconstruction and development efforts, and urges support for the efforts of the United Nations Mine Action Service in this regard;

⁹⁴ See A/49/180-S/1994/727, annex, entitled “Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area”, annex IV.

12. *Reaffirms* that the construction and expansion of Israeli settlements and related infrastructure in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan, are illegal and constitute a major obstacle to economic and social development and to the achievement of peace, and calls for the full cessation of all settlement and settlement-related activity, including full cessation of all measures aimed at altering the demographic composition, legal status and character of the occupied territories, including, in particular, in and around occupied East Jerusalem, in compliance with relevant Security Council resolutions and international law, including the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War;

13. *Calls for* accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated by Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, recalls in this regard Security Council resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, and stresses the need for its implementation;

14. *Also calls for* urgent attention to be paid to the plight and the rights, in accordance with international law, of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons, and for efforts between the two sides for the further release of prisoners and detainees;

15. *Reaffirms* that the ongoing construction by Israel of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, is contrary to international law and is isolating East Jerusalem, fragmenting the West Bank and seriously debilitating the economic and social development of the Palestinian people, and calls in that regard for full compliance with the legal obligations mentioned in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice rendered on 9 July 2004⁹³ and in General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 and subsequent relevant resolutions;

16. *Calls upon* Israel to comply with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and to facilitate visits of the Syrian citizens of the occupied Syrian Golan whose family members reside in their mother homeland, the Syrian Arab Republic, via the Qunaitra entrance;

17. *Emphasizes* the importance of the work of United Nations organizations and agencies in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority;

18. *Expresses appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide economic and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people, which has helped to ameliorate their critical economic and social conditions, and urges the continued provision of assistance commensurate with their increased socioeconomic and humanitarian needs, in cooperation with official Palestinian institutions and consistent with the Palestinian National Development Plan;

19. *Reiterates* the importance of and need for increased and renewed international efforts on the basis of relevant United Nations resolutions, including Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 425 (1978), 1397 (2002), 1515 (2003), 1544 (2004) and 1850 (2008), and the Madrid Conference, the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative⁹⁰ and the Quartet road map,⁹¹ as well as compliance with the agreements reached between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, in order to pave the way for the realization of the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders, and the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue to include in the report of the United Nations Special Coordinator an update on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies;

21. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its substantive session of 2016 the item entitled “Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan”.

*50th plenary meeting
20 July 2015*

2015/18. Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2004/52 of 23 July 2004, 2005/46 of 27 July 2005, 2006/10 of 26 July 2006, 2007/13 of 25 July 2007, 2008/10 of 23 July 2008, 2009/4, of 23 July 2009, 2010/28 of 23 July 2010, 2012/21 of 26 July 2012, 2013/15 of 23 July 2013 and 2014/37 of 18 November 2014 and its decisions 2004/322 of 11 November 2004, 2009/211 of 20 April 2009, 2009/267 of 15 December 2009, 2011/207 of 17 February 2011, 2011/211 of 26 April 2011, 2011/268 of 28 July 2011, 2013/209 of 15 February 2013, 2014/207 of 30 January 2014, 2014/210 of 23 April 2014 and 2014/221 of 13 June 2014,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti⁹⁵ and the recommendations contained therein;
2. *Recognizes* that political, institutional and socioeconomic stability are essential to the long-term development of Haiti, and welcomes the efforts of the Government of Haiti, the United Nations and the international community in this regard;
3. *Urges* Haiti's political actors to work cooperatively to ensure that the upcoming presidential, legislative and local elections are conducted in a free, fair, inclusive and transparent manner in accordance with the Constitution of Haiti, and calls upon all the political actors and stakeholders in Haiti to continue to work in a spirit of consensus and dialogue going forward so that legitimate, credible and well-functioning authorities are in place at all levels to contribute to the reconstruction and development process;
4. *Commends* the sustained progress in the economic and social situation in Haiti since the devastating earthquake of January 2010 and congratulates the Haitian authorities and all Haitian development actors on their work in that regard, and looks forward to continued support from donors and other partners, including the United Nations system and the international financial institutions;
5. *Recognizes* the positive contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives coordinated by the Government of Haiti on the basis of a horizontal and participatory approach in order to help the country to respond to development challenges in a more flexible and effective manner, with special emphasis on an integrated approach to capacity-building, and encourages all development partners, including the United Nations system and developing countries, to support such modalities;
6. *Calls upon* donors to remain engaged in support of the long-term development of Haiti, in line with priorities set by the Government of Haiti, and calls upon the Haitian authorities and international partners to take more coordinated and transparent steps to strengthen the implementation of the External Aid Coordination Framework for the Development of Haiti with a view to making full use of its potential for effective international support;
7. *Recognizes* the External Aid Coordination Framework, established as a platform to strengthen mutual accountability and coordination under the leadership of the Haitian authorities with the support of the donor community;
8. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Haiti intended to simplify the External Aid Coordination Framework and to improve the tracking of aid, and calls upon the development partners of Haiti and the United Nations system to work towards alignment with the priorities and strategies of the Government in order to better coordinate and enhance the effectiveness of aid and the impact of development cooperation;
9. *Also welcomes* the revision of the Integrated Strategic Framework, which reflects the evolution of the situation in the country, including the consolidation of the United Nations presence, the poverty alleviation and investment plans and programmes of the Government as well as new funding requirements, and calls for, inter alia, closer coordination between the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and the United Nations country team and consultation with the Government of Haiti on the implementation of the "Delivering as one" approach by the United Nations system in Haiti;

⁹⁵ E/2015/84.

10. *Invites* donors to align their efforts with the National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera in Haiti as well as with other national activities to prevent waterborne diseases, and to provide the financial resources necessary for their implementation;

11. *Encourages* all relevant actors within the United Nations system, including the peacebuilding architecture, as appropriate, to consider ways in which they can coordinate their efforts, at the request of the Government of Haiti, to better contribute to the strengthening of national institutions and the implementation of strategies and programmes to support reconstruction and sustainable development;

12. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti until the conclusion of the 2016 session, with the purpose of following closely and providing advice on the long-term development strategy of Haiti to promote socioeconomic recovery, reconstruction and stability, with particular attention to the need to ensure coherence and sustainability in international support for Haiti, based on the long-term national development priorities, building upon the Strategic Plan for the Development of Haiti, and stressing the need to avoid overlap and duplication with respect to existing mechanisms;

13. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for the support provided to the Advisory Group, and requests him to continue to support the activities of the Group adequately and within existing resources;

14. *Requests* the Advisory Group, in accomplishing its mandate, to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Haiti and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Development Group, relevant United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and institutions, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Organization of American States, the Caribbean Community, the Union of South American Nations and the Inter-American Development Bank, other major stakeholders and civil society organizations, and in this regard welcomes the continuation of the dialogue between the members of the Advisory Group and the Organization of American States;

15. *Also requests* the Advisory Group to submit a report on its work, with recommendations, as appropriate, to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration at its 2016 session.

*52nd plenary meeting
21 July 2015*

2015/19. Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, in the annex to which Member States affirmed that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice should be held every five years and should provide a forum for, inter alia, the exchange of views between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines, the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development, and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the

commitments of the major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments to stay fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits and invited the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling further its resolution [69/191](#) of 18 December 2014, in which it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to give high priority at its twenty-fourth session to considering the declaration of the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its seventieth session,

Bearing in mind its resolution [67/1](#) of 24 September 2012 on the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels and its resolution [69/195](#) of 18 December 2014 on the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015,

Bearing in mind also its resolution [69/244](#) of 29 December 2014 on the organization of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda,

Taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/22 of 16 July 2014 on the Thirteenth Congress and the post-2015 development agenda and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the contribution of the Thirteenth Congress to the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda, submitted to the Congress pursuant to that resolution,⁹⁶

Aware of the presidential summary of the high-level thematic debate of the General Assembly on integrating crime prevention and criminal justice in the post-2015 development agenda, held in New York on 25 February 2015,⁹⁷

Aware also of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Follow-up to the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World”,⁹⁸

Encouraged by the success of the Thirteenth Congress as one of the largest and most diverse forums for the exchange of views on and experiences in research, law and policy and programme development between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Having considered the report of the Thirteenth Congress⁹⁹ and the related recommendations made by the Commission at its twenty-fourth session,¹⁰⁰

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the results achieved by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015, including the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted at the high-level segment of the Thirteenth Congress;
2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Thirteenth Congress;⁹⁹
3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the work done in the preparations for and follow-up to the Thirteenth Congress, and extends its thanks to the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network for their contribution to the Congress, in particular with regard to the workshops held within the framework of the Congress;

⁹⁶ [A/CONF.222/5](#).

⁹⁷ [A/CONF.222/15](#).

⁹⁸ [A/CONF.222/3](#).

⁹⁹ [A/CONF.222/17](#).

¹⁰⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 10 (E/2015/30)*.

4. *Endorses* the Doha Declaration adopted by the Thirteenth Congress, as approved by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-fourth session and annexed to the present resolution;
5. *Welcomes with appreciation* the initiative of the Government of Qatar, in cooperation with the Qatar Foundation, to organize for the first time a youth forum prior to the Thirteenth Congress, appreciates the results of the Doha Youth Forum on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as contained in the Doha Youth Forum Statement,¹⁰¹ which were submitted to the Congress, encourages Member States to give due consideration to the recommendations set out therein, and invites the host countries of future congresses to consider the holding of similar events;
6. *Invites* Governments to take into consideration the Doha Declaration adopted by the Thirteenth Congress when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;
7. *Invites* Member States to identify areas covered in the Doha Declaration where further tools and training manuals based on international standards and best practices are needed and to submit that information to the Commission so that it may take that information into account when considering potential areas of future activity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
8. *Welcomes* the intention of the Government of Qatar to work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in ensuring appropriate follow-up to the outcome of the Thirteenth Congress, particularly the implementation of the Doha Declaration;
9. *Also welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Qatar to establish a regional fund for the education and training of displaced and refugee children and youth in the Middle East, with the aim of integrating social and cultural dimensions in crime prevention strategies and policies;
10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in the development and implementation of its technical cooperation programmes, to aim for sustainable and long-lasting results when assisting Member States in rebuilding, modernizing and strengthening criminal justice systems, as well as promoting the rule of law, and to design such programmes to achieve those aims for all components of the criminal justice system, in an integrated way and with a long-term perspective;
11. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,¹⁰² the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto¹⁰³ and the international counter-terrorism instruments;
12. *Calls for* greater coherence and coordination between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and relevant United Nations agencies, with a view to achieving a fully coordinated approach to integrating crime prevention and criminal justice into the broader United Nations agenda, and invites other international organizations, the private sector and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Office in the implementation of its mandate;
13. *Requests* the Commission to review the implementation of the Doha Declaration under the standing item on its agenda entitled “Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”;
14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to distribute the report of the Thirteenth Congress, including the Doha Declaration, to Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, so as to ensure that they are disseminated as widely as possible, and to seek proposals by Member States on ways and means of ensuring appropriate follow-up to the Doha Declaration, for consideration and action by the Commission at its twenty-fifth session;

¹⁰¹ [A/CONF.222/16](#), annex.

¹⁰² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

15. *Welcomes with appreciation* the offer of the Government of Japan to act as host to the Fourteenth Congress, to be held in 2020;

16. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the people and Government of Qatar for the warm and generous hospitality extended to the participants in the Thirteenth Congress and for the excellent facilities provided for the Congress;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Annex

Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation

We, Heads of State and Government, Ministers and Representatives of Member States,

Having assembled at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Doha, from 12 to 19 April 2015, to reaffirm our shared commitment to uphold the rule of law and to prevent and counter crime in all its forms and manifestations, at the domestic and international levels, to ensure that our criminal justice systems are effective, fair, humane and accountable, to provide access to justice for all, to build effective, accountable, impartial and inclusive institutions at all levels and to uphold the principle of human dignity and the universal observance and respect of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

To that end, declare the following:

1. We acknowledge the 60-year legacy and continuing significant role of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice as one of the largest and most diverse international forums for the exchange of views and experiences in research, law and policy and programme development between States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines in order to identify emerging trends and issues in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. We recognize the unique and important contributions of the congresses to law and policy development, as well as to the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice.

2. We reaffirm the cross-cutting nature of crime prevention and criminal justice issues and the consequent need to integrate those issues into the wider agenda of the United Nations in order to enhance system-wide coordination. We look forward to the future contributions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice with regard to designing and implementing national and international crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes, taking into account and building upon the recommendations of the congresses.

3. We recognize the importance of effective, fair, humane and accountable crime prevention and criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them as a central component of the rule of law. We commit ourselves to holistic and comprehensive approaches to countering crime, violence, corruption and terrorism in all their forms and manifestations, and to ensuring that those responses are implemented in a coordinated and coherent way, along with broader programmes or measures for social and economic development, poverty eradication, respect for cultural diversity, social peace and social inclusion.

4. We acknowledge that sustainable development and the rule of law are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing. We therefore welcome the inclusive and transparent intergovernmental process for the post-2015 development agenda, which is aimed at developing global sustainable development goals to be agreed by the General Assembly, and acknowledge the proposals of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals of the Assembly as the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda, while recognizing that other inputs will also be considered. In this context, we reiterate the importance of promoting peaceful, corruption-free and inclusive societies for sustainable development, with a focus on a people-centred approach that provides access to justice for all and builds effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

5. We reaffirm our commitment and strong political will in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, and encourage the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society, thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider

United Nations agenda, while respecting fully the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in particular for those affected by crime and those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter crime motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind. To that end, we endeavour:

(a) To adopt comprehensive and inclusive national crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes that fully take into account evidence and other relevant factors, including the root causes of crime, as well as the conditions conducive to its occurrence, and, in accordance with our obligations under international law and taking into consideration relevant United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, to ensure appropriate training of officials entrusted with upholding the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(b) To ensure the right of everyone to a fair trial without undue delay by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law, to equal access to justice with due process safeguards and, if needed, to access to an attorney and to an interpreter, and to ensure relevant rights under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations;¹⁰⁴ to exercise due diligence to prevent and counter acts of violence; and to take effective legislative, administrative and judicial measures to prevent, prosecute and punish all forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and eliminate impunity;

(c) To review and reform legal aid policies for expansion of access to effective legal aid in criminal proceedings for those without sufficient means or when the interests of justice so require, including, when necessary, through the development of national plans in this field, and to build capacities to provide and ensure access to effective legal aid in all matters and in all its forms, taking into account the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems;¹⁰⁵

(d) To make every effort to prevent and counter corruption, and to implement measures aimed at enhancing transparency in public administration and promoting the integrity and accountability of our criminal justice systems, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;¹⁰⁶

(e) To integrate child- and youth-related issues into our criminal justice reform efforts, recognizing the importance of protecting children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, consistent with the obligations of parties under relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child¹⁰⁷ and the Optional Protocols thereto,¹⁰⁸ and taking into consideration the relevant provisions of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,¹⁰⁹ as well as to develop and apply comprehensive child-sensitive justice policies focused on the best interests of the child, consistent with the principle that the deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, so as to protect children who are in contact with the criminal justice system, as well as children who are in any other situation requiring legal proceedings, particularly in relation to their treatment and social reintegration. We look forward to the results of the global study on children deprived of their liberty in this regard;

(f) To mainstream a gender perspective into our criminal justice systems by developing and implementing national strategies and plans to promote the full protection of women and girls from all acts of violence, including gender-related killing of women and girls, in accordance with the obligations of parties under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women¹¹⁰ and the Optional Protocol thereto,¹¹¹ and taking into account the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the

¹⁰⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

¹⁰⁵ General Assembly resolution 67/187, annex.

¹⁰⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and General Assembly resolution 66/138, annex.

¹⁰⁹ General Assembly resolution 69/194, annex.

¹¹⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

¹¹¹ *Ibid.*, vol. 2131, No. 20378.

Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice¹¹² and General Assembly resolutions on the gender-related killing of women and girls;

(g) To promote gender-specific measures as an integral part of our policies on crime prevention, criminal justice and the treatment of offenders, including the rehabilitation and reintegration of women offenders into society, taking into consideration the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);¹¹³

(h) To develop and implement appropriate and effective national strategies and plans for the advancement of women in criminal justice systems and institutions at the leadership, managerial and other levels;

(i) To enhance equality for all persons before the law, including gender equality, for individuals belonging to minority groups and for indigenous people, through, inter alia, a comprehensive approach with other sectors of government, relevant members of civil society and the media and the promotion of the recruitment by criminal justice institutions of individuals belonging to these groups;

(j) To implement and enhance policies for prison inmates that focus on education, work, medical care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and the prevention of recidivism, and to consider the development and strengthening of policies to support the families of inmates, as well as to promote and encourage the use of alternatives to imprisonment, where appropriate, and to review or reform our restorative justice and other processes in support of successful reintegration;

(k) To intensify our efforts to address the challenge of prison overcrowding through appropriate criminal justice reforms, which should include, where appropriate, a review of penal policies and practical measures to reduce pretrial detention, to enhance the use of non-custodial sanctions and to improve access to legal aid to the extent possible;

(l) To adopt effective measures for the recognition, protection and provision of support for and assistance to victims and witnesses in the framework of criminal justice responses to all crimes, including corruption and terrorism, in accordance with relevant international instruments and taking into consideration the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

(m) To implement a victim-oriented approach to prevent and counter all forms of trafficking in persons for the purpose of exploitation, including the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs, where appropriate, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,¹¹⁴ and taking into account the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,¹¹⁵ and to work, as necessary, with regional, international and civil society organizations to overcome the obstacles that may impede the delivery of social and legal assistance to victims of trafficking;

(n) To implement effective measures to protect the human rights of smuggled migrants, particularly women and children, and unaccompanied migrant children, in accordance with the obligations of parties under the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹¹⁶ and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,¹¹⁷ which include the obligation that migrants shall not become liable to criminal prosecution under the Protocol only for the fact of having been the object of smuggling, and other relevant international instruments, and to make every possible effort to prevent the further loss of lives and bring the perpetrators to justice;

¹¹² General Assembly resolution 65/228, annex.

¹¹³ General Assembly resolution 65/229, annex.

¹¹⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

¹¹⁵ General Assembly resolution 64/293.

¹¹⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

(o) To implement effective measures to eliminate violence against all migrants, migrant workers and their families, and to take all necessary legal and administrative steps to prevent and counter crimes involving violence against those groups;

(p) To conduct further research and gather data on crime victimization motivated by discrimination of any kind and to exchange experiences in and information on effective laws and policies that can prevent such crimes, bring perpetrators to justice and provide support to victims;

(q) To consider providing specialized training to criminal justice professionals to enhance capacities for recognizing, understanding, suppressing and investigating hate crimes motivated by discrimination of any kind, to help engage effectively with victim communities and to build public confidence and cooperation with criminal justice agencies;

(r) To intensify our national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination by, inter alia, raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination;

(s) To prevent and counter, through appropriate domestic procedures for the timely identification and processing of cases, acts of violence falling within our jurisdiction against journalists and media professionals, whose professional duties often put them at specific risk of intimidation, harassment and violence, in particular from organized criminal groups and terrorists, and in conflict and post-conflict situations, and to ensure accountability through the conduct of impartial, speedy and effective investigations, in accordance with national legislation and applicable international law;

(t) To strengthen the development and use of tools and methods aimed at increasing the availability and quality of statistical information and analytical studies on crime and criminal justice at the international level, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of responses to crime and to enhance the effectiveness of crime prevention and criminal justice programmes at the national, regional and international levels.

6. We welcome the work of the Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners and take note of the draft updated Standard Minimum Rules, as finalized by the Expert Group at its meeting held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 2 to 5 March 2015, and look forward to the consideration of this revised draft, and action thereon, by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

7. We emphasize that education for all children and youth, including the eradication of illiteracy, is fundamental to the prevention of crime and corruption and to the promotion of a culture of lawfulness that supports the rule of law and human rights while respecting cultural identities. In this regard, we also stress the fundamental role of youth participation in crime prevention efforts. Therefore, we will endeavour:

(a) To create a safe, positive and secure learning environment in schools, supported by the community, including by protecting children from all forms of violence, harassment, bullying, sexual abuse and drug abuse, in accordance with domestic laws;

(b) To integrate crime prevention, criminal justice and other rule of law aspects into our domestic educational systems;

(c) To integrate crime prevention and criminal justice strategies into all relevant social and economic policies and programmes, in particular those affecting youth, with a special emphasis on programmes focused on increasing educational and employment opportunities for youth and young adults;

(d) To provide access to education for all, including technical and professional skills, as well as to promote lifelong learning skills for all.

8. We endeavour to strengthen international cooperation as a cornerstone of our efforts to enhance crime prevention and ensure that our criminal justice systems are effective, fair, humane and accountable, and ultimately to prevent and counter all crimes. We encourage States parties to implement and make more effective use of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the three international drug control conventions and the international conventions and protocols related to countering terrorism, and urge all Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to those instruments. We underscore that any measures taken to counter terrorism must comply with all our obligations under international law. We

endeavour to enhance further international cooperation to stop the systematic exploitation of large numbers of individuals who are forced and coerced into a life of abuse and degradation. We therefore strive:

(a) To promote and strengthen international and regional cooperation to further develop the capacity of national criminal justice systems, including through efforts to modernize and strengthen national legislation, as appropriate, as well as joint training and upgrading of the skills of our criminal justice officials, in particular to foster the development of strong and effective central authorities for international cooperation in criminal matters, inter alia, in the areas of extradition, mutual legal assistance, transfer of criminal proceedings and transfer of sentenced persons, and to conclude, where appropriate, bilateral and regional cooperation agreements, and to continue the development of specialized networks of law enforcement authorities, central authorities, prosecutors, judges, defence lawyers and legal aid providers to exchange information and share good practices and expertise, including, where appropriate, by promoting a global virtual network to advance, where possible, direct contact among competent authorities to enhance information-sharing and mutual legal assistance, making the best possible use of information and communication platforms;

(b) To continue to support the implementation of capacity-building programmes and training for criminal justice officials aimed at preventing and countering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, in line with human rights and fundamental freedoms, including with regard to international cooperation in criminal matters, the financing of terrorism, the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, the destruction of cultural heritage by terrorists and kidnapping for ransom or for the purpose of extortion, and at addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, and to cooperate, as well as address, further analyse and identify appropriate areas for joint action, through, inter alia, effective exchange of information and sharing of experiences and best practices, to counter any existing, growing or potential links, in some cases, between transnational organized crime, illicit drug-related activities, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, in order to enhance criminal justice responses to those crimes;

(c) To adopt effective measures at the national and international levels aimed at preventing terrorist groups from benefiting from ransom payments;

(d) To strengthen cooperation at the international, regional, subregional and bilateral levels to counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including through enhanced operational and timely information-sharing, logistical support, as appropriate, and capacity-building activities, such as those provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to share and adopt best practices to identify foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent the travel of foreign terrorist fighters from, into or through Member States, to prevent the financing, mobilization, recruitment and organization of foreign terrorist fighters, to counter violent extremism and radicalization to violence, which can be conducive to terrorism, to enhance our efforts to implement deradicalization programmes, and to ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in the supporting of terrorist acts is brought to justice, in compliance with obligations under international law, as well as applicable domestic law;

(e) To implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States to assist in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue discussing innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge built through the implementation of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank;

(f) To develop strategies to prevent and combat all illicit financial flows and emphasize the urgent need to adopt more effective measures to fight against economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, especially in their relevant transnational dimensions;

(g) To strengthen or, as appropriate, adopt procedures to more effectively prevent and counter money-laundering and enhance measures for the identification, tracing, freezing, seizure and recovery of the proceeds of crime, including money and other assets that have not been accounted for and that are found in safe havens, for the purpose of their eventual confiscation, including, where appropriate and in accordance with domestic law, non-conviction-based confiscation, and for the transparent disposition of confiscated proceeds;

(h) To develop and implement adequate mechanisms to manage and preserve the value and condition of frozen, seized or confiscated assets that are the proceeds of crime, as well as to strengthen international cooperation in criminal matters and to explore ways of affording one another similar cooperation in civil and administrative proceedings for confiscation purposes;

(i) To take appropriate measures to prevent and counter trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the victims and those who have been the object of such crimes, through all necessary legal and administrative steps, in accordance with the respective protocols, as appropriate, and strengthening inter-agency cooperation and coordination at the national level, as well as closer bilateral, regional and multilateral cooperation;

(j) To consider, when investigating and prosecuting offences related to trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through those crimes, and the establishment of such crimes as predicate offences for money-laundering, as well as to enhance coordination and information-sharing among relevant agencies;

(k) To develop and adopt, as appropriate, effective measures to prevent and combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, as well as explosives, including through awareness-raising campaigns designed to eliminate the illicit use of firearms and the illicit manufacture of explosives, to encourage States parties to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,¹¹⁸ to strengthen implementation of the Protocol by, inter alia, considering the use of available tools, including marking and record-keeping technologies, to facilitate the tracing of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components and ammunition, in order to enhance criminal investigations of illicit trafficking in firearms, to support the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,¹¹⁹ and to note the contributions of existing instruments on this issue and on related matters at the regional and international levels;

(l) To intensify our efforts to address the world drug problem, based upon the principle of common and shared responsibility and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, including through more effective bilateral, regional and international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities, to counter the involvement of organized criminal groups in illicit drug production and trafficking and related criminal activities, and to take steps to reduce the violence that accompanies drug trafficking;

(m) To continue to explore all options regarding an appropriate and effective mechanism or mechanisms to assist the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto in an effective and efficient manner;

(n) To invite Member States to draw on the United Nations model treaties on international cooperation in criminal matters when considering developing agreements with other States, bearing in mind their value as important tools for the development of international cooperation, and to invite the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to continue its initiative to identify United Nations model treaties that may need to be updated, based on inputs received from Member States.

9. We endeavour to ensure that the benefits of economic, social and technological advancements become a positive force to enhance our efforts in preventing and countering new and emerging forms of crime. We recognize our responsibility to adequately respond to emerging and evolving threats posed by such crimes. Therefore, we strive:

(a) To develop and implement comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice responses, including strengthening of the capacities of our judiciary and law enforcement institutions, and to adopt, when necessary, legislative and administrative measures to effectively prevent and counter new, emerging and

¹¹⁸ Ibid., vol. 2326, No. 39574.

¹¹⁹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

evolving forms of crime at the national, regional and international levels, taking into account the scope of application of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime with regard to “serious crimes”, in accordance with national legislation;

(b) To explore specific measures designed to create a secure and resilient cyberenvironment, to prevent and counter criminal activities carried out over the Internet, paying particular attention to identity theft, recruitment for the purpose of trafficking in persons and protecting children from online exploitation and abuse, to strengthen law enforcement cooperation at the national and international levels, including with the aim of identifying and protecting victims by, inter alia, removing child pornography, in particular child sexual abuse imagery, from the Internet, to enhance the security of computer networks and protect the integrity of relevant infrastructure, and to endeavour to provide long-term technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen the ability of national authorities to deal with cybercrime, including the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of such crime in all its forms. In addition, we note the activities of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to conduct a comprehensive study of the problem of cybercrime and responses to it by Member States, the international community and the private sector, and invite the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to consider recommending that the expert group continue, based on its work, to exchange information on national legislation, best practices, technical assistance and international cooperation, with a view to examining options to strengthen existing responses and to propose new national and international legal or other responses to cybercrime;

(c) To strengthen and implement comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice responses to illicit trafficking in cultural property, for the purpose of providing the widest possible international cooperation to address such crime, to review and strengthen domestic legislation to counter trafficking in cultural property, where appropriate, in accordance with our commitments under international instruments, including, as appropriate, the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property of 1970,¹²⁰ and taking into consideration the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences,¹²¹ to continue to gather and share information and statistical data on trafficking in cultural property, in particular on trafficking that involves organized criminal groups and terrorist organizations, and to further consider the potential utility of and improvements to the model treaty for the prevention of crimes that infringe on the cultural heritage of peoples in the form of movable property,¹²² and international standards and norms in this field, in close cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and other competent international organizations, with a view to ensuring coordination of efforts in fulfilment of their respective mandates;

(d) To conduct further research on the links between urban crime and other manifestations of organized crime in some countries and regions, including crimes committed by gangs, as well as to exchange experiences in and information on effective crime prevention and criminal justice programmes and policies among Member States and with relevant international and regional organizations, in order to address through innovative approaches the impact of urban crime and gang-related violence on specific populations and places, fostering social inclusion and employment opportunities and aiming at facilitating social reintegration of adolescents and young adults;

(e) To adopt effective measures to prevent and counter the serious problem of crimes that have an impact on the environment, such as trafficking in wildlife, including flora and fauna as protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,¹²³ timber and timber products and hazardous waste, as well as poaching, by strengthening legislation, international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts aimed at, inter alia, dealing with transnational organized crime, corruption and money-laundering linked to such crimes;

¹²⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 823, No. 11806.

¹²¹ General Assembly resolution 69/196, annex.

¹²² *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.1, annex.

¹²³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

(f) To ensure that our law enforcement and criminal justice institutions have the expertise and technical capacities to adequately address these new and emerging forms of crime, in close cooperation and coordination with one another, and to provide those institutions with the necessary financial and structural support;

(g) To continue the analysis and exchange of information and practices relating to other evolving forms of transnational organized crime with varying impacts at the regional and global levels, with a view to more effectively preventing and countering crime and strengthening the rule of law. These may include, as appropriate, smuggling of petroleum and its derivatives, trafficking in precious metals and stones, illegal mining, counterfeiting of trademarked goods, trafficking in human organs, blood and tissue, and piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea.¹²⁴

10. We support the development and implementation of consultative and participatory processes in crime prevention and criminal justice in order to engage all members of society, including those at risk of crime and victimization, to make our prevention efforts more effective and to galvanize public trust and confidence in criminal justice systems. We recognize our leading role and responsibility at all levels in developing and implementing crime prevention strategies and criminal justice policies at the national and subnational levels. We also recognize that, to enhance the effectiveness and fairness of such strategies, we should take measures to ensure the contribution of civil society, the private sector and academia, including the network of institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, as well as the media and all other relevant stakeholders, in the development and implementation of crime prevention policies. Therefore, we endeavour:

(a) To plan and implement comprehensive policies and programmes that foster socioeconomic development, with a focus on the prevention of crime, including urban crime, and violence, and to support other Member States in such endeavours, in particular through the exchange of experience and relevant information on policies and programmes that have been successful in reducing crime and violence through social policies;

(b) To develop awareness-raising programmes to convey key values based on the rule of law and supported by educational programmes, to be accompanied by economic and social policies promoting equality, solidarity and justice, and to reach out to young people, drawing on them as agents of positive change;

(c) To promote a culture of lawfulness based on the protection of human rights and the rule of law while respecting cultural identity, with particular emphasis on children and youth, seeking the support of civil society and intensifying our prevention efforts and measures targeting and using the full potential of families, schools, religious and cultural institutions, community organizations and the private sector in order to address the social and economic root causes of crime;

(d) To promote the management and resolution of social conflict through dialogue and mechanisms of community participation, including by raising public awareness, preventing victimization, increasing cooperation between the public, competent authorities and civil society, and promoting restorative justice;

(e) To raise public confidence in criminal justice by preventing corruption and promoting respect for human rights, as well as enhancing professional competence and oversight in all sectors of the criminal justice system, thus ensuring that it is accessible and responsive to the needs and rights of all individuals;

(f) To explore the potential for the use of traditional and new information and communications technologies in the development of policies and programmes to strengthen crime prevention and criminal justice, including for identifying public safety issues and fostering public participation;

(g) To promote the improvement of e-government systems in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice, with a view to enhancing public participation, and to promote the use of new technologies to facilitate cooperation and partnerships between the police and the communities they serve, as well as to share good practices and exchange information on community policing;

(h) To strengthen public-private partnerships in preventing and countering crime in all its forms and manifestations;

(i) To ensure that the content of the law is accessible to the public, and to promote, as appropriate, the transparency of criminal trials;

¹²⁴ As defined by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in its resolution 22/6 (see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/2013/30 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D).

(j) To establish or build upon existing practices and measures to encourage the public, especially victims, to report and follow up on incidents of crime and corruption, and to develop and implement measures for the protection of whistle-blowers and witnesses;

(k) To consider partnering and supporting community initiatives and fostering the active participation of citizens in ensuring access to justice for all, including awareness of their rights, as well as their involvement in the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, including by creating opportunities for community service and supporting the social reintegration and rehabilitation of offenders, and in that regard to encourage the sharing of best practices and the exchange of information on relevant social reintegration policies and programmes and on relevant public-private partnerships;

(l) To encourage the active participation of the private sector in crime prevention, as well as in social inclusion programmes and employability schemes for vulnerable members of society, including victims and those released from prison;

(m) To build and maintain capacities for the study of criminology, as well as forensic and correctional sciences, and to draw on contemporary scientific expertise in the design and implementation of relevant policies, programmes and projects.

11. As we continue our efforts to achieve the objectives set forth in the present Declaration, to enhance international cooperation, to uphold the rule of law and to ensure that our crime prevention and criminal justice systems are effective, fair, humane and accountable, we reaffirm the importance of adequate, long-term, sustainable and effective technical assistance and capacity-building policies and programmes. We therefore strive:

(a) To continue to provide sufficient, stable and predictable funding in support of the design and implementation of effective programmes to prevent and counter crime in all its forms and manifestations, upon the request of Member States and based on an assessment of their specific needs and priorities, in close collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(b) To invite the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the network of institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, and all relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, in fulfilment of their mandates, to continue to coordinate and cooperate with Member States to provide effective responses to the challenges faced at the national, regional and global levels, as well as to strengthen the effectiveness of public participation in crime prevention and criminal justice, including through the preparation of studies and the development and implementation of programmes.

12. We reaffirm that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime remains an essential partner for the achievement of our aspirations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice and for the implementation of the provisions of the present Declaration.

13. We welcome with appreciation the offer of the Government of Japan to act as host to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2020.

14. We express our profound gratitude to the people and Government of Qatar for their warm and generous hospitality and for the excellent facilities provided for the Thirteenth Congress.

*53rd plenary meeting
21 July 2015*

2015/20. United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Mandela Rules)

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principal purposes of the United Nations, as set out in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹²⁵ and inspired by the determination to

¹²⁵ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, without distinction of any kind, and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained and to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Recalling all standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice developed at the request of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and adopted or recommended by the General Assembly, or adopted by a United Nations congress on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, and recognizing that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a source of inspiration for the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Bearing in mind the long-standing concern of the United Nations for the humanization of criminal justice and the protection of human rights, and emphasizing the fundamental importance of human rights in the daily administration of criminal justice and crime prevention,

Aware that the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners¹²⁶ have been the universally acknowledged minimum standards for the detention of prisoners and that they have been of significant value and influence, as a guide, in the development of correctional laws, policies and practices since their adoption by the First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, in 1955,

Mindful that, in the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,¹²⁷ Member States recognized that an effective, fair, accountable and humane criminal justice system was based on the commitment to uphold the protection of human rights in the administration of justice and the prevention and control of crime, and acknowledged the value and impact of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice in designing and implementing national crime prevention and criminal justice policies, procedures and programmes,

Taking into account the progressive development of international law pertaining to the treatment of prisoners since 1955, including in international instruments such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹²⁸ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights¹²⁸ and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment¹²⁹ and the Optional Protocol thereto,¹³⁰

Recalling the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related to the treatment of prisoners and to alternatives to imprisonment adopted since 1955, in particular the procedures for the effective implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners,¹³¹ the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment,¹³² the Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners,¹³³ the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules)¹³⁴ and the basic principles on the use of restorative justice programmes in criminal matters,¹³⁵

Bearing in mind the need for vigilance with regard to the specific situation of children, juveniles and women in the administration of justice, in particular while they are deprived of their liberty, as called for in the

¹²⁶ *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, Volume I (First Part), *Universal Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XIV.4 (Vol. I, Part 1)), sect. J, No. 34.

¹²⁷ General Assembly resolution 65/230, annex.

¹²⁸ See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

¹²⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*, vol. 2375, No. 24841.

¹³¹ Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/47, annex.

¹³² General Assembly resolution 43/173, annex.

¹³³ General Assembly resolution 45/111, annex.

¹³⁴ General Assembly resolution 45/110, annex.

¹³⁵ Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/12, annex.

United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules),¹³⁶ the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines),¹³⁷ the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty¹³⁸ and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),¹³⁹

Recalling the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice adopted since 1955 that provide additional guidance on the treatment of prisoners, including the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials,¹⁴⁰ the Principles of Medical Ethics relevant to the role of health personnel, particularly physicians, in the protection of prisoners and detainees against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,¹⁴¹ the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials,¹⁴² the Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment¹⁴³ and the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,¹⁴⁴

Aware of regional principles and standards related to the treatment of prisoners, including the Principles and Best Practices on the Protection of Persons Deprived of Liberty in the Americas, the revised European Prison Rules, the Kampala Declaration on Prison Conditions in Africa,¹⁴⁵ the Arusha Declaration on Good Prison Practice¹⁴⁶ and the Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Fair Trial and Legal Assistance in Africa,

Recalling its resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010, entitled “Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, in which it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to establish an open-ended intergovernmental expert group to exchange information on best practices, as well as national legislation and existing international law, and on the revision of existing United Nations standard minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners so that they reflect recent advances in correctional science and best practices,

Recalling also its resolutions 67/188 of 20 December 2012, 68/190 of 18 December 2013 and 69/192 of 18 December 2014, entitled “Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners”, in particular resolution 68/190, in which it took note with appreciation of the work done by the Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, and resolution 69/192, in which it emphasized that efforts should be made to finalize the revision process, building on the recommendations made at the three meetings of the Expert Group and the submissions of Member States,

Mindful that, in its resolution 68/190, it took into consideration the recommendations of the Expert Group with regard to the issues and the rules of the Standard Minimum Rules that had been identified for revision in the following areas:

- (a) Respect for prisoners’ inherent dignity and value as human beings (rules 6, para. 1; 57–59; and 60, para. 1),
- (b) Medical and health services (rules 22–26; 52; 62; and 71, para. 2),
- (c) Disciplinary action and punishment, including the role of medical staff, solitary confinement and reduction of diet (rules 27, 29, 31 and 32),

¹³⁶ General Assembly resolution 40/33, annex.

¹³⁷ General Assembly resolution 45/112, annex.

¹³⁸ General Assembly resolution 45/113, annex.

¹³⁹ General Assembly resolution 65/229, annex.

¹⁴⁰ General Assembly resolution 34/169, annex.

¹⁴¹ General Assembly resolution 37/194, annex.

¹⁴² *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.2, annex.

¹⁴³ General Assembly resolution 55/89, annex.

¹⁴⁴ General Assembly resolution 67/187, annex.

¹⁴⁵ Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/36, annex.

¹⁴⁶ Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/27, annex.

- (d) Investigation of all deaths in custody, as well as of any signs or allegations of torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of prisoners (rule 7 and proposed rules 44 bis and 54 bis),
- (e) Protection and special needs of vulnerable groups deprived of their liberty, taking into consideration countries in difficult circumstances (rules 6 and 7),
- (f) The right of access to legal representation (rules 30; 35, para. 1; 37; and 93),
- (g) Complaints and independent inspection (rules 36 and 55),
- (h) The replacement of outdated terminology (rules 22–26, 62, 82 and 83 and various others),
- (i) Training of relevant staff to implement the Standard Minimum Rules (rule 47),

Mindful also that, in its resolution [69/192](#), it reiterated that any changes to the Standard Minimum Rules should not lower any of the existing standards, but should reflect recent advances in correctional science and good practices so as to promote safety, security and humane conditions for prisoners,

Mindful further of the extensive consultative process culminating in the recommendations of the Expert Group, a process spanning a period of five years, consisting of technical and expert pre-consultations, meetings in Vienna, Buenos Aires and Cape Town, South Africa, and the active participation and input of Member States from all regions, assisted by representatives of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network and other United Nations entities, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, intergovernmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, specialized agencies in the United Nations system, including the World Health Organization, and non-governmental organizations and individual experts in the field of correctional science and human rights,

Recalling its resolution [69/172](#) of 18 December 2014, entitled “Human rights in the administration of justice”, in which it recognized the importance of the principle that, except for those lawful limitations that are demonstrably necessitated by the fact of incarceration, persons deprived of their liberty shall retain their non-derogable human rights and all other human rights and fundamental freedoms, recalled that the social rehabilitation and reintegration of persons deprived of their liberty shall be among the essential aims of the criminal justice system, ensuring, as far as possible, that offenders are able to lead a law-abiding and self-supporting life upon their return to society, and took note of, inter alia, general comment No. 21 on the humane treatment of persons deprived of their liberty, adopted by the Human Rights Committee,¹⁴⁷

1. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Government of South Africa for hosting the meeting of the Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 2 to 5 March 2015 and for providing financial support and leadership throughout the review process, and notes with appreciation the consensus achieved on the nine thematic areas and the rules identified for revision by the Expert Group at its previous meetings;¹⁴⁸

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Argentina for hosting and financing the meeting of the Expert Group held in Buenos Aires from 11 to 13 December 2012 and to the Government of Brazil for its financial contribution to the meeting of the Expert Group held in Vienna from 25 to 28 March 2014;

3. *Acknowledges* the valuable work accomplished by the bureau of the meeting of the Expert Group held in Vienna in 2014 in preparing, with the assistance of the Secretariat, the documentation for the meeting of the Expert Group held in Cape Town in 2015, in particular the revised consolidated working paper;¹⁴⁹

4. *Notes* that in the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations

¹⁴⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40 (A/47/40)*, annex VI.B.

¹⁴⁸ See [E/CN.15/2015/17](#).

¹⁴⁹ UNODC/CCPCJ/EG/6/2015/2.

Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015,¹⁵⁰ the Thirteenth Congress welcomed the work of the Expert Group, and took note of the draft updated Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, as finalized by the Expert Group at its meeting held in Cape Town in March 2015;

5. *Adopts* the proposed revision of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, annexed to the present resolution, as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners;

6. *Approves* the recommendation of the Expert Group that the Rules should be known as “the Mandela Rules”, to honour the legacy of the late President of South Africa, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, who spent 27 years in prison in the course of his struggle for global human rights, equality, democracy and the promotion of a culture of peace;

7. *Decides* to extend the scope of Nelson Mandela International Day, observed each year on 18 July,¹⁵¹ to be also known as Mandela Prisoner Rights Day, in order to promote humane conditions of imprisonment, to raise awareness about prisoners being a continuous part of society and to value the work of prison staff as a social service of particular importance, and to this end invites Member States, regional organizations and organizations of the United Nations system to celebrate this occasion in an appropriate manner;

8. *Reaffirms*, in the context of paragraph 5 above, the preliminary observations to the Mandela Rules, underscores the non-binding nature of the Rules, acknowledges the variety of Member States’ legal frameworks, and in that regard recognizes that Member States may adapt the application of the Rules in accordance with their domestic legal frameworks, as appropriate, bearing in mind the spirit and purposes of the Rules;

9. *Encourages* Member States to endeavour to improve conditions in detention, consistent with the Mandela Rules and all other relevant and applicable United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, to continue exchanging good practices in order to identify challenges faced in implementing the Rules and to share their experiences in dealing with those challenges;

10. *Invites* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to consider, at its upcoming sessions, reconvening the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group on the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners for the purpose of identifying the lessons learned, the means to continue to exchange good practices and the challenges faced in the implementation of the Mandela Rules;

11. *Encourages* Member States to promote the implementation of the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty¹³⁸ and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);¹³⁹

12. *Recommends* that Member States continue to endeavour to reduce prison overcrowding and, where appropriate, resort to non-custodial measures as alternatives to pretrial detention, to promote increased access to justice and legal defence mechanisms, to reinforce alternatives to imprisonment and to support rehabilitation and social reintegration programmes, in accordance with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules);¹³⁴

13. *Notes* the importance of a voluntary exchange of experiences and good practices among Member States and with relevant international entities, where appropriate, and the provision of technical assistance to Member States, for the improved implementation of the Mandela Rules, upon their request;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider allocating adequate human and financial resources to assist in the improvement of prison conditions and the application of the Mandela Rules;

15. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to ensure broad dissemination of the Mandela Rules, to design guidance material and to provide technical assistance and advisory services to Member States in the field of penal reform, in order to develop or strengthen penitentiary legislation, procedures, policies and practices in line with the Rules;

¹⁵⁰ Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/19, annex.

¹⁵¹ See General Assembly resolution [64/13](#).

16. *Commends* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for its continuing contributions to the improvement of the administration of justice through the development and refinement of international standards and norms in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and calls upon Member States to continue their efforts in this regard;

17. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to promote the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice by, inter alia, providing advisory services and technical assistance to Member States, on request, including assistance in crime prevention, criminal justice and law reform, and in the organization of training for law enforcement, crime prevention and criminal justice personnel and support in the administration and management of penal and penitentiary systems, thus contributing to the upgrading of their efficiency and capabilities;

18. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

19. *Affirms* the important role of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in the revision process and in contributing to the dissemination, promotion and practical application of the Mandela Rules in accordance with the procedures for their effective implementation.

Annex

United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Mandela Rules)

Preliminary observation 1

The following rules are not intended to describe in detail a model system of penal institutions. They seek only, on the basis of the general consensus of contemporary thought and the essential elements of the most adequate systems of today, to set out what is generally accepted as being good principles and practice in the treatment of prisoners and prison management.

Preliminary observation 2

1. In view of the great variety of legal, social, economic and geographical conditions in the world, it is evident that not all of the rules are capable of application in all places and at all times. They should, however, serve to stimulate a constant endeavour to overcome practical difficulties in the way of their application, in the knowledge that they represent, as a whole, the minimum conditions which are accepted as suitable by the United Nations.

2. On the other hand, the rules cover a field in which thought is constantly developing. They are not intended to preclude experiment and practices, provided these are in harmony with the principles and seek to further the purposes which derive from the text of the rules as a whole. It will always be justifiable for the central prison administration to authorize departures from the rules in this spirit.

Preliminary observation 3

1. Part I of the rules covers the general management of prisons, and is applicable to all categories of prisoners, criminal or civil, untried or convicted, including prisoners subject to “security measures” or corrective measures ordered by the judge.

2. Part II contains rules applicable only to the special categories dealt with in each section. Nevertheless, the rules under section A, applicable to prisoners under sentence, shall be equally applicable to categories of prisoners dealt with in sections B, C and D, provided they do not conflict with the rules governing those categories and are for their benefit.

Preliminary observation 4

1. The rules do not seek to regulate the management of institutions set aside for young persons such as juvenile detention facilities or correctional schools, but in general part I would be equally applicable in such institutions.

2. The category of young prisoners should include at least all young persons who come within the jurisdiction of juvenile courts. As a rule, such young persons should not be sentenced to imprisonment.

I. Rules of general application

Basic principles

Rule 1

All prisoners shall be treated with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value as human beings. No prisoner shall be subjected to, and all prisoners shall be protected from, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, for which no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked as a justification. The safety and security of prisoners, staff, service providers and visitors shall be ensured at all times.

Rule 2

1. The present rules shall be applied impartially. There shall be no discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or any other status. The religious beliefs and moral precepts of prisoners shall be respected.
2. In order for the principle of non-discrimination to be put into practice, prison administrations shall take account of the individual needs of prisoners, in particular the most vulnerable categories in prison settings. Measures to protect and promote the rights of prisoners with special needs are required and shall not be regarded as discriminatory.

Rule 3

Imprisonment and other measures that result in cutting off persons from the outside world are afflictive by the very fact of taking from these persons the right of self-determination by depriving them of their liberty. Therefore the prison system shall not, except as incidental to justifiable separation or the maintenance of discipline, aggravate the suffering inherent in such a situation.

Rule 4

1. The purposes of a sentence of imprisonment or similar measures deprivative of a person's liberty are primarily to protect society against crime and to reduce recidivism. Those purposes can be achieved only if the period of imprisonment is used to ensure, so far as possible, the reintegration of such persons into society upon release so that they can lead a law-abiding and self-supporting life.
2. To this end, prison administrations and other competent authorities should offer education, vocational training and work, as well as other forms of assistance that are appropriate and available, including those of a remedial, moral, spiritual, social and health- and sports-based nature. All such programmes, activities and services should be delivered in line with the individual treatment needs of prisoners.

Rule 5

1. The prison regime should seek to minimize any differences between prison life and life at liberty that tend to lessen the responsibility of the prisoners or the respect due to their dignity as human beings.
2. Prison administrations shall make all reasonable accommodation and adjustments to ensure that prisoners with physical, mental or other disabilities have full and effective access to prison life on an equitable basis.

Prisoner file management

Rule 6

There shall be a standardized prisoner file management system in every place where persons are imprisoned. Such a system may be an electronic database of records or a registration book with numbered and signed pages. Procedures shall be in place to ensure a secure audit trail and to prevent unauthorized access to or modification of any information contained in the system.

Rule 7

No person shall be received in a prison without a valid commitment order. The following information shall be entered in the prisoner file management system upon admission of every prisoner:

- (a) Precise information enabling determination of his or her unique identity, respecting his or her self-perceived gender;
- (b) The reasons for his or her commitment and the responsible authority, in addition to the date, time and place of arrest;
- (c) The day and hour of his or her admission and release as well as of any transfer;
- (d) Any visible injuries and complaints about prior ill-treatment;
- (e) An inventory of his or her personal property;
- (f) The names of his or her family members, including, where applicable, his or her children, the children's ages, location and custody or guardianship status;
- (g) Emergency contact details and information on the prisoner's next of kin.

Rule 8

The following information shall be entered in the prisoner file management system in the course of imprisonment, where applicable:

- (a) Information related to the judicial process, including dates of court hearings and legal representation;
- (b) Initial assessment and classification reports;
- (c) Information related to behaviour and discipline;
- (d) Requests and complaints, including allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, unless they are of a confidential nature;
- (e) Information on the imposition of disciplinary sanctions;
- (f) Information on the circumstances and causes of any injuries or death and, in the case of the latter, the destination of the remains.

Rule 9

All records referred to in rules 7 and 8 shall be kept confidential and made available only to those whose professional responsibilities require access to such records. Every prisoner shall be granted access to the records pertaining to him or her, subject to redactions authorized under domestic legislation, and shall be entitled to receive an official copy of such records upon his or her release.

Rule 10

Prisoner file management systems shall also be used to generate reliable data about trends relating to and characteristics of the prison population, including occupancy rates, in order to create a basis for evidence-based decision-making.

Separation of categories

Rule 11

The different categories of prisoners shall be kept in separate institutions or parts of institutions, taking account of their sex, age, criminal record, the legal reason for their detention and the necessities of their treatment; thus:

- (a) Men and women shall so far as possible be detained in separate institutions; in an institution which receives both men and women, the whole of the premises allocated to women shall be entirely separate;

- (b) Untried prisoners shall be kept separate from convicted prisoners;
- (c) Persons imprisoned for debt and other civil prisoners shall be kept separate from persons imprisoned by reason of a criminal offence;
- (d) Young prisoners shall be kept separate from adults.

Accommodation

Rule 12

1. Where sleeping accommodation is in individual cells or rooms, each prisoner shall occupy by night a cell or room by himself or herself. If for special reasons, such as temporary overcrowding, it becomes necessary for the central prison administration to make an exception to this rule, it is not desirable to have two prisoners in a cell or room.
2. Where dormitories are used, they shall be occupied by prisoners carefully selected as being suitable to associate with one another in those conditions. There shall be regular supervision by night, in keeping with the nature of the prison.

Rule 13

All accommodation provided for the use of prisoners and in particular all sleeping accommodation shall meet all requirements of health, due regard being paid to climatic conditions and particularly to cubic content of air, minimum floor space, lighting, heating and ventilation.

Rule 14

In all places where prisoners are required to live or work:

- (a) The windows shall be large enough to enable the prisoners to read or work by natural light and shall be so constructed that they can allow the entrance of fresh air whether or not there is artificial ventilation;
- (b) Artificial light shall be provided sufficient for the prisoners to read or work without injury to eyesight.

Rule 15

The sanitary installations shall be adequate to enable every prisoner to comply with the needs of nature when necessary and in a clean and decent manner.

Rule 16

Adequate bathing and shower installations shall be provided so that every prisoner can, and may be required to, have a bath or shower, at a temperature suitable to the climate, as frequently as necessary for general hygiene according to season and geographical region, but at least once a week in a temperate climate.

Rule 17

All parts of a prison regularly used by prisoners shall be properly maintained and kept scrupulously clean at all times.

Personal hygiene

Rule 18

1. Prisoners shall be required to keep their persons clean, and to this end they shall be provided with water and with such toilet articles as are necessary for health and cleanliness.
2. In order that prisoners may maintain a good appearance compatible with their self-respect, facilities shall be provided for the proper care of the hair and beard, and men shall be able to shave regularly.

Clothing and bedding

Rule 19

1. Every prisoner who is not allowed to wear his or her own clothing shall be provided with an outfit of clothing suitable for the climate and adequate to keep him or her in good health. Such clothing shall in no manner be degrading or humiliating.
2. All clothing shall be clean and kept in proper condition. Underclothing shall be changed and washed as often as necessary for the maintenance of hygiene.
3. In exceptional circumstances, whenever a prisoner is removed outside the prison for an authorized purpose, he or she shall be allowed to wear his or her own clothing or other inconspicuous clothing.

Rule 20

If prisoners are allowed to wear their own clothing, arrangements shall be made on their admission to the prison to ensure that it shall be clean and fit for use.

Rule 21

Every prisoner shall, in accordance with local or national standards, be provided with a separate bed and with separate and sufficient bedding which shall be clean when issued, kept in good order and changed often enough to ensure its cleanliness.

Food

Rule 22

1. Every prisoner shall be provided by the prison administration at the usual hours with food of nutritional value adequate for health and strength, of wholesome quality and well prepared and served.
2. Drinking water shall be available to every prisoner whenever he or she needs it.

Exercise and sport

Rule 23

1. Every prisoner who is not employed in outdoor work shall have at least one hour of suitable exercise in the open air daily if the weather permits.
2. Young prisoners, and others of suitable age and physique, shall receive physical and recreational training during the period of exercise. To this end, space, installations and equipment should be provided.

Health-care services

Rule 24

1. The provision of health care for prisoners is a State responsibility. Prisoners should enjoy the same standards of health care that are available in the community, and should have access to necessary health-care services free of charge without discrimination on the grounds of their legal status.
2. Health-care services should be organized in close relationship to the general public health administration and in a way that ensures continuity of treatment and care, including for HIV, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, as well as for drug dependence.

Rule 25

1. Every prison shall have in place a health-care service tasked with evaluating, promoting, protecting and improving the physical and mental health of prisoners, paying particular attention to prisoners with special health-care needs or with health issues that hamper their rehabilitation.
2. The health-care service shall consist of an interdisciplinary team with sufficient qualified personnel acting in full clinical independence and shall encompass sufficient expertise in psychology and psychiatry. The services of a qualified dentist shall be available to every prisoner.

Rule 26

1. The health-care service shall prepare and maintain accurate, up-to-date and confidential individual medical files on all prisoners, and all prisoners should be granted access to their files upon request. A prisoner may appoint a third party to access his or her medical file.
2. Medical files shall be transferred to the health-care service of the receiving institution upon transfer of a prisoner and shall be subject to medical confidentiality.

Rule 27

1. All prisons shall ensure prompt access to medical attention in urgent cases. Prisoners who require specialized treatment or surgery shall be transferred to specialized institutions or to civil hospitals. Where a prison service has its own hospital facilities, they shall be adequately staffed and equipped to provide prisoners referred to them with appropriate treatment and care.
2. Clinical decisions may only be taken by the responsible health-care professionals and may not be overruled or ignored by non-medical prison staff.

Rule 28

In women's prisons, there shall be special accommodation for all necessary prenatal and postnatal care and treatment. Arrangements shall be made wherever practicable for children to be born in a hospital outside the prison. If a child is born in prison, this fact shall not be mentioned in the birth certificate.

Rule 29

1. A decision to allow a child to stay with his or her parent in prison shall be based on the best interests of the child concerned. Where children are allowed to remain in prison with a parent, provision shall be made for:
 - (a) Internal or external childcare facilities staffed by qualified persons, where the children shall be placed when they are not in the care of their parent;
 - (b) Child-specific health-care services, including health screenings upon admission and ongoing monitoring of their development by specialists.
2. Children in prison with a parent shall never be treated as prisoners.

Rule 30

A physician or other qualified health-care professionals, whether or not they are required to report to the physician, shall see, talk with and examine every prisoner as soon as possible following his or her admission and thereafter as necessary. Particular attention shall be paid to:

- (a) Identifying health-care needs and taking all necessary measures for treatment;
- (b) Identifying any ill-treatment that arriving prisoners may have been subjected to prior to admission;
- (c) Identifying any signs of psychological or other stress brought on by the fact of imprisonment, including, but not limited to, the risk of suicide or self-harm and withdrawal symptoms resulting from the use of drugs, medication or alcohol; and undertaking all appropriate individualized measures or treatment;
- (d) In cases where prisoners are suspected of having contagious diseases, providing for the clinical isolation and adequate treatment of those prisoners during the infectious period;
- (e) Determining the fitness of prisoners to work, to exercise and to participate in other activities, as appropriate.

Rule 31

The physician or, where applicable, other qualified health-care professionals shall have daily access to all sick prisoners, all prisoners who complain of physical or mental health issues or injury and any prisoner to whom their attention is specially directed. All medical examinations shall be undertaken in full confidentiality.

Rule 32

1. The relationship between the physician or other health-care professionals and the prisoners shall be governed by the same ethical and professional standards as those applicable to patients in the community, in particular:

(a) The duty of protecting prisoners' physical and mental health and the prevention and treatment of disease on the basis of clinical grounds only;

(b) Adherence to prisoners' autonomy with regard to their own health and informed consent in the doctor-patient relationship;

(c) The confidentiality of medical information, unless maintaining such confidentiality would result in a real and imminent threat to the patient or to others;

(d) An absolute prohibition on engaging, actively or passively, in acts that may constitute torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including medical or scientific experimentation that may be detrimental to a prisoner's health, such as the removal of a prisoner's cells, body tissues or organs.

2. Without prejudice to paragraph 1 (d) of this rule, prisoners may be allowed, upon their free and informed consent and in accordance with applicable law, to participate in clinical trials and other health research accessible in the community if these are expected to produce a direct and significant benefit to their health, and to donate cells, body tissues or organs to a relative.

Rule 33

The physician shall report to the prison director whenever he or she considers that a prisoner's physical or mental health has been or will be injuriously affected by continued imprisonment or by any condition of imprisonment.

Rule 34

If, in the course of examining a prisoner upon admission or providing medical care to the prisoner thereafter, health-care professionals become aware of any signs of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, they shall document and report such cases to the competent medical, administrative or judicial authority. Proper procedural safeguards shall be followed in order not to expose the prisoner or associated persons to foreseeable risk of harm.

Rule 35

1. The physician or competent public health body shall regularly inspect and advise the prison director on:

(a) The quantity, quality, preparation and service of food;

(b) The hygiene and cleanliness of the institution and the prisoners;

(c) The sanitation, temperature, lighting and ventilation of the prison;

(d) The suitability and cleanliness of the prisoners' clothing and bedding;

(e) The observance of the rules concerning physical education and sports, in cases where there is no technical personnel in charge of these activities.

2. The prison director shall take into consideration the advice and reports provided in accordance with paragraph 1 of this rule and rule 33 and shall take immediate steps to give effect to the advice and the recommendations in the reports. If the advice or recommendations do not fall within the prison director's competence or if he or she does not concur with them, the director shall immediately submit to a higher authority his or her own report and the advice or recommendations of the physician or competent public health body.

Restrictions, discipline and sanctions

Rule 36

Discipline and order shall be maintained with no more restriction than is necessary to ensure safe custody, the secure operation of the prison and a well-ordered community life.

Rule 37

The following shall always be subject to authorization by law or by the regulation of the competent administrative authority:

- (a) Conduct constituting a disciplinary offence;
- (b) The types and duration of sanctions that may be imposed;
- (c) The authority competent to impose such sanctions;

(d) Any form of involuntary separation from the general prison population, such as solitary confinement, isolation, segregation, special care units or restricted housing, whether as a disciplinary sanction or for the maintenance of order and security, including promulgating policies and procedures governing the use and review of, admission to and release from any form of involuntary separation.

Rule 38

1. Prison administrations are encouraged to use, to the extent possible, conflict prevention, mediation or any other alternative dispute resolution mechanism to prevent disciplinary offences or to resolve conflicts.
2. For prisoners who are, or have been, separated, the prison administration shall take the necessary measures to alleviate the potential detrimental effects of their confinement on them and on their community following their release from prison.

Rule 39

1. No prisoner shall be sanctioned except in accordance with the terms of the law or regulation referred to in rule 37 and the principles of fairness and due process. A prisoner shall never be sanctioned twice for the same act or offence.
2. Prison administrations shall ensure proportionality between a disciplinary sanction and the offence for which it is established, and shall keep a proper record of all disciplinary sanctions imposed.
3. Before imposing disciplinary sanctions, prison administrations shall consider whether and how a prisoner's mental illness or developmental disability may have contributed to his or her conduct and the commission of the offence or act underlying the disciplinary charge. Prison administrations shall not sanction any conduct of a prisoner that is considered to be the direct result of his or her mental illness or intellectual disability.

Rule 40

1. No prisoner shall be employed, in the service of the prison, in any disciplinary capacity.
2. This rule shall not, however, impede the proper functioning of systems based on self-government, under which specified social, educational or sports activities or responsibilities are entrusted, under supervision, to prisoners who are formed into groups for the purposes of treatment.

Rule 41

1. Any allegation of a disciplinary offence by a prisoner shall be reported promptly to the competent authority, which shall investigate it without undue delay.
2. Prisoners shall be informed, without delay and in a language that they understand, of the nature of the accusations against them and shall be given adequate time and facilities for the preparation of their defence.
3. Prisoners shall be allowed to defend themselves in person, or through legal assistance when the interests of justice so require, particularly in cases involving serious disciplinary charges. If the prisoners do not understand or speak the language used at a disciplinary hearing, they shall be assisted by a competent interpreter free of charge.
4. Prisoners shall have an opportunity to seek judicial review of disciplinary sanctions imposed against them.

5. In the event that a breach of discipline is prosecuted as a crime, prisoners shall be entitled to all due process guarantees applicable to criminal proceedings, including unimpeded access to a legal adviser.

Rule 42

General living conditions addressed in these rules, including those related to light, ventilation, temperature, sanitation, nutrition, drinking water, access to open air and physical exercise, personal hygiene, health care and adequate personal space, shall apply to all prisoners without exception.

Rule 43

1. In no circumstances may restrictions or disciplinary sanctions amount to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The following practices, in particular, shall be prohibited:

- (a) Indefinite solitary confinement;
- (b) Prolonged solitary confinement;
- (c) Placement of a prisoner in a dark or constantly lit cell;
- (d) Corporal punishment or the reduction of a prisoner's diet or drinking water;
- (e) Collective punishment.

2. Instruments of restraint shall never be applied as a sanction for disciplinary offences.

3. Disciplinary sanctions or restrictive measures shall not include the prohibition of family contact. The means of family contact may only be restricted for a limited time period and as strictly required for the maintenance of security and order.

Rule 44

For the purpose of these rules, solitary confinement shall refer to the confinement of prisoners for 22 hours or more a day without meaningful human contact. Prolonged solitary confinement shall refer to solitary confinement for a time period in excess of 15 consecutive days.

Rule 45

1. Solitary confinement shall be used only in exceptional cases as a last resort, for as short a time as possible and subject to independent review, and only pursuant to the authorization by a competent authority. It shall not be imposed by virtue of a prisoner's sentence.

2. The imposition of solitary confinement should be prohibited in the case of prisoners with mental or physical disabilities when their conditions would be exacerbated by such measures. The prohibition of the use of solitary confinement and similar measures in cases involving women and children, as referred to in other United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,¹⁵² continues to apply.

Rule 46

1. Health-care personnel shall not have any role in the imposition of disciplinary sanctions or other restrictive measures. They shall, however, pay particular attention to the health of prisoners held under any form of involuntary separation, including by visiting such prisoners on a daily basis and providing prompt medical assistance and treatment at the request of such prisoners or prison staff.

2. Health-care personnel shall report to the prison director, without delay, any adverse effect of disciplinary sanctions or other restrictive measures on the physical or mental health of a prisoner subjected to such

¹⁵² See rule 67 of the United Nations Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty (General Assembly resolution [45/113](#), annex); and rule 22 of the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) (General Assembly resolution [65/229](#), annex).

sanctions or measures and shall advise the director if they consider it necessary to terminate or alter them for physical or mental health reasons.

3. Health-care personnel shall have the authority to review and recommend changes to the involuntary separation of a prisoner in order to ensure that such separation does not exacerbate the medical condition or mental or physical disability of the prisoner.

Instruments of restraint

Rule 47

1. The use of chains, irons or other instruments of restraint which are inherently degrading or painful shall be prohibited.

2. Other instruments of restraint shall only be used when authorized by law and in the following circumstances:

(a) As a precaution against escape during a transfer, provided that they are removed when the prisoner appears before a judicial or administrative authority;

(b) By order of the prison director, if other methods of control fail, in order to prevent a prisoner from injuring himself or herself or others or from damaging property; in such instances, the director shall immediately alert the physician or other qualified health-care professionals and report to the higher administrative authority.

Rule 48

1. When the imposition of instruments of restraint is authorized in accordance with paragraph 2 of rule 47, the following principles shall apply:

(a) Instruments of restraint are to be imposed only when no lesser form of control would be effective to address the risks posed by unrestricted movement;

(b) The method of restraint shall be the least intrusive method that is necessary and reasonably available to control the prisoner's movement, based on the level and nature of the risks posed;

(c) Instruments of restraint shall be imposed only for the time period required, and they are to be removed as soon as possible after the risks posed by unrestricted movement are no longer present.

2. Instruments of restraint shall never be used on women during labour, during childbirth and immediately after childbirth.

Rule 49

The prison administration should seek access to, and provide training in the use of, control techniques that would obviate the need for the imposition of instruments of restraint or reduce their intrusiveness.

Searches of prisoners and cells

Rule 50

The laws and regulations governing searches of prisoners and cells shall be in accordance with obligations under international law and shall take into account international standards and norms, keeping in mind the need to ensure security in the prison. Searches shall be conducted in a manner that is respectful of the inherent human dignity and privacy of the individual being searched, as well as the principles of proportionality, legality and necessity.

Rule 51

Searches shall not be used to harass, intimidate or unnecessarily intrude upon a prisoner's privacy. For the purpose of accountability, the prison administration shall keep appropriate records of searches, in particular strip and body cavity searches and searches of cells, as well as the reasons for the searches, the identities of those who conducted them and any results of the searches.

Rule 52

1. Intrusive searches, including strip and body cavity searches, should be undertaken only if absolutely necessary. Prison administrations shall be encouraged to develop and use appropriate alternatives to intrusive searches. Intrusive searches shall be conducted in private and by trained staff of the same sex as the prisoner.
2. Body cavity searches shall be conducted only by qualified health-care professionals other than those primarily responsible for the care of the prisoner or, at a minimum, by staff appropriately trained by a medical professional in standards of hygiene, health and safety.

Rule 53

Prisoners shall have access to, or be allowed to keep in their possession without access by the prison administration, documents relating to their legal proceedings.

Information to and complaints by prisoners

Rule 54

Upon admission, every prisoner shall be promptly provided with written information about:

- (a) The prison law and applicable prison regulations;
- (b) His or her rights, including authorized methods of seeking information, access to legal advice, including through legal aid schemes, and procedures for making requests or complaints;
- (c) His or her obligations, including applicable disciplinary sanctions; and
- (d) All other matters necessary to enable the prisoner to adapt himself or herself to the life of the prison.

Rule 55

1. The information referred to in rule 54 shall be available in the most commonly used languages in accordance with the needs of the prison population. If a prisoner does not understand any of those languages, interpretation assistance should be provided.
2. If a prisoner is illiterate, the information shall be conveyed to him or her orally. Prisoners with sensory disabilities should be provided with information in a manner appropriate to their needs.
3. The prison administration shall prominently display summaries of the information in common areas of the prison.

Rule 56

1. Every prisoner shall have the opportunity each day to make requests or complaints to the prison director or the prison staff member authorized to represent him or her.
2. It shall be possible to make requests or complaints to the inspector of prisons during his or her inspections. The prisoner shall have the opportunity to talk to the inspector or any other inspecting officer freely and in full confidentiality, without the director or other members of the staff being present.
3. Every prisoner shall be allowed to make a request or complaint regarding his or her treatment, without censorship as to substance, to the central prison administration and to the judicial or other competent authorities, including those vested with reviewing or remedial power.
4. The rights under paragraphs 1 to 3 of this rule shall extend to the legal adviser of the prisoner. In those cases where neither the prisoner nor his or her legal adviser has the possibility of exercising such rights, a member of the prisoner's family or any other person who has knowledge of the case may do so.

Rule 57

1. Every request or complaint shall be promptly dealt with and replied to without delay. If the request or complaint is rejected, or in the event of undue delay, the complainant shall be entitled to bring it before a judicial or other authority.

2. Safeguards shall be in place to ensure that prisoners can make requests or complaints safely and, if so requested by the complainant, in a confidential manner. A prisoner or other person mentioned in paragraph 4 of rule 56 must not be exposed to any risk of retaliation, intimidation or other negative consequences as a result of having submitted a request or complaint.

3. Allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of prisoners shall be dealt with immediately and shall result in a prompt and impartial investigation conducted by an independent national authority in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of rule 71.

Contact with the outside world

Rule 58

1. Prisoners shall be allowed, under necessary supervision, to communicate with their family and friends at regular intervals:

(a) By corresponding in writing and using, where available, telecommunication, electronic, digital and other means; and

(b) By receiving visits.

2. Where conjugal visits are allowed, this right shall be applied without discrimination, and women prisoners shall be able to exercise this right on an equal basis with men. Procedures shall be in place and premises shall be made available to ensure fair and equal access with due regard to safety and dignity.

Rule 59

Prisoners shall be allocated, to the extent possible, to prisons close to their homes or their places of social rehabilitation.

Rule 60

1. Admission of visitors to the prison facility is contingent upon the visitor's consent to being searched. The visitor may withdraw his or her consent at any time, in which case the prison administration may refuse access.

2. Search and entry procedures for visitors shall not be degrading and shall be governed by principles at least as protective as those outlined in rules 50 to 52. Body cavity searches should be avoided and should not be applied to children.

Rule 61

1. Prisoners shall be provided with adequate opportunity, time and facilities to be visited by and to communicate and consult with a legal adviser of their own choice or a legal aid provider, without delay, interception or censorship and in full confidentiality, on any legal matter, in conformity with applicable domestic law. Consultations may be within sight, but not within hearing, of prison staff.

2. In cases in which prisoners do not speak the local language, the prison administration shall facilitate access to the services of an independent competent interpreter.

3. Prisoners should have access to effective legal aid.

Rule 62

1. Prisoners who are foreign nationals shall be allowed reasonable facilities to communicate with the diplomatic and consular representatives of the State to which they belong.

2. Prisoners who are nationals of States without diplomatic or consular representation in the country and refugees or stateless persons shall be allowed similar facilities to communicate with the diplomatic representative of the State which takes charge of their interests or any national or international authority whose task it is to protect such persons.

Rule 63

Prisoners shall be kept informed regularly of the more important items of news by the reading of newspapers, periodicals or special institutional publications, by hearing wireless transmissions, by lectures or by any similar means as authorized or controlled by the prison administration.

Books

Rule 64

Every prison shall have a library for the use of all categories of prisoners, adequately stocked with both recreational and instructional books, and prisoners shall be encouraged to make full use of it.

Religion

Rule 65

1. If the prison contains a sufficient number of prisoners of the same religion, a qualified representative of that religion shall be appointed or approved. If the number of prisoners justifies it and conditions permit, the arrangement should be on a full-time basis.
2. A qualified representative appointed or approved under paragraph 1 of this rule shall be allowed to hold regular services and to pay pastoral visits in private to prisoners of his or her religion at proper times.
3. Access to a qualified representative of any religion shall not be refused to any prisoner. On the other hand, if any prisoner should object to a visit of any religious representative, his or her attitude shall be fully respected.

Rule 66

So far as practicable, every prisoner shall be allowed to satisfy the needs of his or her religious life by attending the services provided in the prison and having in his or her possession the books of religious observance and instruction of his or her denomination.

Retention of prisoners' property

Rule 67

1. All money, valuables, clothing and other effects belonging to a prisoner which he or she is not allowed to retain under the prison regulations shall on his or her admission to the prison be placed in safe custody. An inventory thereof shall be signed by the prisoner. Steps shall be taken to keep them in good condition.
2. On the release of the prisoner, all such articles and money shall be returned to him or her except in so far as he or she has been authorized to spend money or send any such property out of the prison, or it has been found necessary on hygienic grounds to destroy any article of clothing. The prisoner shall sign a receipt for the articles and money returned to him or her.
3. Any money or effects received for a prisoner from outside shall be treated in the same way.
4. If a prisoner brings in any drugs or medicine, the physician or other qualified health-care professionals shall decide what use shall be made of them.

Notifications

Rule 68

Every prisoner shall have the right, and shall be given the ability and means, to inform immediately his or her family, or any other person designated as a contact person, about his or her imprisonment, about his or her transfer to another institution and about any serious illness or injury. The sharing of prisoners' personal information shall be subject to domestic legislation.

Rule 69

In the event of a prisoner's death, the prison director shall at once inform the prisoner's next of kin or emergency contact. Individuals designated by a prisoner to receive his or her health information shall be notified by the director of the prisoner's serious illness, injury or transfer to a health institution. The explicit request of a prisoner not to have his or her spouse or nearest relative notified in the event of illness or injury shall be respected.

Rule 70

The prison administration shall inform a prisoner at once of the serious illness or death of a near relative or any significant other. Whenever circumstances allow, the prisoner should be authorized to go, either under escort or alone, to the bedside of a near relative or significant other who is critically ill, or to attend the funeral of a near relative or significant other.

Investigations

Rule 71

1. Notwithstanding the initiation of an internal investigation, the prison director shall report, without delay, any custodial death, disappearance or serious injury to a judicial or other competent authority that is independent of the prison administration and mandated to conduct prompt, impartial and effective investigations into the circumstances and causes of such cases. The prison administration shall fully cooperate with that authority and ensure that all evidence is preserved.
2. The obligation in paragraph 1 of this rule shall equally apply whenever there are reasonable grounds to believe that an act of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment has been committed in prison, irrespective of whether a formal complaint has been received.
3. Whenever there are reasonable grounds to believe that an act referred to in paragraph 2 of this rule has been committed, steps shall be taken immediately to ensure that all potentially implicated persons have no involvement in the investigation and no contact with the witnesses, the victim or the victim's family.

Rule 72

The prison administration shall treat the body of a deceased prisoner with respect and dignity. The body of a deceased prisoner should be returned to his or her next of kin as soon as reasonably possible, at the latest upon completion of the investigation. The prison administration shall facilitate a culturally appropriate funeral if there is no other responsible party willing or able to do so and shall keep a full record of the matter.

Removal of prisoners

Rule 73

1. When prisoners are being removed to or from an institution, they shall be exposed to public view as little as possible, and proper safeguards shall be adopted to protect them from insult, curiosity and publicity in any form.
2. The transport of prisoners in conveyances with inadequate ventilation or light, or in any way which would subject them to unnecessary physical hardship, shall be prohibited.
3. The transport of prisoners shall be carried out at the expense of the prison administration and equal conditions shall apply to all of them.

Institutional personnel

Rule 74

1. The prison administration shall provide for the careful selection of every grade of the personnel, since it is on their integrity, humanity, professional capacity and personal suitability for the work that the proper administration of prisons depends.

2. The prison administration shall constantly seek to awaken and maintain in the minds both of the personnel and of the public the conviction that this work is a social service of great importance, and to this end all appropriate means of informing the public should be used.

3. To secure the foregoing ends, personnel shall be appointed on a full-time basis as professional prison staff and have civil service status with security of tenure subject only to good conduct, efficiency and physical fitness. Salaries shall be adequate to attract and retain suitable men and women; employment benefits and conditions of service shall be favourable in view of the exacting nature of the work.

Rule 75

1. All prison staff shall possess an adequate standard of education and shall be given the ability and means to carry out their duties in a professional manner.

2. Before entering on duty, all prison staff shall be provided with training tailored to their general and specific duties, which shall be reflective of contemporary evidence-based best practice in penal sciences. Only those candidates who successfully pass the theoretical and practical tests at the end of such training shall be allowed to enter the prison service.

3. The prison administration shall ensure the continuous provision of in-service training courses with a view to maintaining and improving the knowledge and professional capacity of its personnel, after entering on duty and during their career.

Rule 76

1. Training referred to in paragraph 2 of rule 75 shall include, at a minimum, training on:

(a) Relevant national legislation, regulations and policies, as well as applicable international and regional instruments, the provisions of which must guide the work and interactions of prison staff with inmates;

(b) Rights and duties of prison staff in the exercise of their functions, including respecting the human dignity of all prisoners and the prohibition of certain conduct, in particular torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(c) Security and safety, including the concept of dynamic security, the use of force and instruments of restraint, and the management of violent offenders, with due consideration of preventive and defusing techniques, such as negotiation and mediation;

(d) First aid, the psychosocial needs of prisoners and the corresponding dynamics in prison settings, as well as social care and assistance, including early detection of mental health issues.

2. Prison staff who are in charge of working with certain categories of prisoners, or who are assigned other specialized functions, shall receive training that has a corresponding focus.

Rule 77

All prison staff shall at all times so conduct themselves and perform their duties as to influence the prisoners for good by their example and to command their respect.

Rule 78

1. So far as possible, prison staff shall include a sufficient number of specialists such as psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, teachers and trade instructors.

2. The services of social workers, teachers and trade instructors shall be secured on a permanent basis, without thereby excluding part-time or voluntary workers.

Rule 79

1. The prison director should be adequately qualified for his or her task by character, administrative ability, suitable training and experience.

2. The prison director shall devote his or her entire working time to official duties and shall not be appointed on a part-time basis. He or she shall reside on the premises of the prison or in its immediate vicinity.
3. When two or more prisons are under the authority of one director, he or she shall visit each of them at frequent intervals. A responsible resident official shall be in charge of each of these prisons.

Rule 80

1. The prison director, his or her deputy, and the majority of other prison staff shall be able to speak the language of the greatest number of prisoners, or a language understood by the greatest number of them.
2. Whenever necessary, the services of a competent interpreter shall be used.

Rule 81

1. In a prison for both men and women, the part of the prison set aside for women shall be under the authority of a responsible woman staff member who shall have the custody of the keys of all that part of the prison.
2. No male staff member shall enter the part of the prison set aside for women unless accompanied by a woman staff member.
3. Women prisoners shall be attended and supervised only by women staff members. This does not, however, preclude male staff members, particularly doctors and teachers, from carrying out their professional duties in prisons or parts of prisons set aside for women.

Rule 82

1. Prison staff shall not, in their relations with the prisoners, use force except in self-defence or in cases of attempted escape, or active or passive physical resistance to an order based on law or regulations. Prison staff who have recourse to force must use no more than is strictly necessary and must report the incident immediately to the prison director.
2. Prison staff shall be given special physical training to enable them to restrain aggressive prisoners.
3. Except in special circumstances, prison staff performing duties which bring them into direct contact with prisoners should not be armed. Furthermore, prison staff should in no circumstances be provided with arms unless they have been trained in their use.

Internal and external inspections

Rule 83

1. There shall be a twofold system for regular inspections of prisons and penal services:
 - (a) Internal or administrative inspections conducted by the central prison administration;
 - (b) External inspections conducted by a body independent of the prison administration, which may include competent international or regional bodies.
2. In both cases, the objective of the inspections shall be to ensure that prisons are managed in accordance with existing laws, regulations, policies and procedures, with a view to bringing about the objectives of penal and corrections services, and that the rights of prisoners are protected.

Rule 84

1. Inspectors shall have the authority:
 - (a) To access all information on the numbers of prisoners and places and locations of detention, as well as all information relevant to the treatment of prisoners, including their records and conditions of detention;
 - (b) To freely choose which prisons to visit, including by making unannounced visits at their own initiative, and which prisoners to interview;

(c) To conduct private and fully confidential interviews with prisoners and prison staff in the course of their visits;

(d) To make recommendations to the prison administration and other competent authorities.

2. External inspection teams shall be composed of qualified and experienced inspectors appointed by a competent authority and shall encompass health-care professionals. Due regard shall be given to balanced gender representation.

Rule 85

1. Every inspection shall be followed by a written report to be submitted to the competent authority. Due consideration shall be given to making the reports of external inspections publicly available, excluding any personal data on prisoners unless they have given their explicit consent.

2. The prison administration or other competent authorities, as appropriate, shall indicate, within a reasonable time, whether they will implement the recommendations resulting from the external inspection.

II. Rules applicable to special categories

A. Prisoners under sentence

Guiding principles

Rule 86

The guiding principles hereafter are intended to show the spirit in which penal institutions should be administered and the purposes at which they should aim, in accordance with the declaration made under preliminary observation 1 of these rules.

Rule 87

Before the completion of the sentence, it is desirable that the necessary steps be taken to ensure for the prisoner a gradual return to life in society. This aim may be achieved, depending on the case, by a pre-release regime organized in the same prison or in another appropriate institution, or by release on trial under some kind of supervision which must not be entrusted to the police but should be combined with effective social aid.

Rule 88

1. The treatment of prisoners should emphasize not their exclusion from the community but their continuing part in it. Community agencies should therefore be enlisted wherever possible to assist the prison staff in the task of social rehabilitation of the prisoners.

2. There should be in connection with every prison social workers charged with the duty of maintaining and improving all desirable relations of a prisoner with his or her family and with valuable social agencies. Steps should be taken to safeguard, to the maximum extent compatible with the law and the sentence, the rights relating to civil interests, social security rights and other social benefits of prisoners.

Rule 89

1. The fulfilment of these principles requires individualization of treatment and for this purpose a flexible system of classifying prisoners in groups. It is therefore desirable that such groups should be distributed in separate prisons suitable for the treatment of each group.

2. These prisons do not need to provide the same degree of security for every group. It is desirable to provide varying degrees of security according to the needs of different groups. Open prisons, by the very fact that they provide no physical security against escape but rely on the self-discipline of the inmates, provide the conditions most favourable to the rehabilitation of carefully selected prisoners.

3. It is desirable that the number of prisoners in closed prisons should not be so large that the individualization of treatment is hindered. In some countries it is considered that the population of such prisons should not exceed 500. In open prisons the population should be as small as possible.

4. On the other hand, it is undesirable to maintain prisons which are so small that proper facilities cannot be provided.

Rule 90

The duty of society does not end with a prisoner's release. There should, therefore, be governmental or private agencies capable of lending the released prisoner efficient aftercare directed towards the lessening of prejudice against him or her and towards his or her social rehabilitation.

Treatment

Rule 91

The treatment of persons sentenced to imprisonment or a similar measure shall have as its purpose, so far as the length of the sentence permits, to establish in them the will to lead law-abiding and self-supporting lives after their release and to fit them to do so. The treatment shall be such as will encourage their self-respect and develop their sense of responsibility.

Rule 92

1. To these ends, all appropriate means shall be used, including religious care in the countries where this is possible, education, vocational guidance and training, social casework, employment counselling, physical development and strengthening of moral character, in accordance with the individual needs of each prisoner, taking account of his or her social and criminal history, physical and mental capacities and aptitudes, personal temperament, the length of his or her sentence and prospects after release.
2. For every prisoner with a sentence of suitable length, the prison director shall receive, as soon as possible after his or her admission, full reports on all the matters referred to in paragraph 1 of this rule. Such reports shall always include a report by the physician or other qualified health-care professionals on the physical and mental condition of the prisoner.
3. The reports and other relevant documents shall be placed in an individual file. This file shall be kept up to date and classified in such a way that it can be consulted by the responsible personnel whenever the need arises.

Classification and individualization

Rule 93

1. The purposes of classification shall be:
 - (a) To separate from others those prisoners who, by reason of their criminal records or characters, are likely to exercise a bad influence;
 - (b) To divide the prisoners into classes in order to facilitate their treatment with a view to their social rehabilitation.
2. So far as possible, separate prisons or separate sections of a prison shall be used for the treatment of different classes of prisoners.

Rule 94

As soon as possible after admission and after a study of the personality of each prisoner with a sentence of suitable length, a programme of treatment shall be prepared for him or her in the light of the knowledge obtained about his or her individual needs, capacities and dispositions.

Privileges

Rule 95

Systems of privileges appropriate for the different classes of prisoners and the different methods of treatment shall be established at every prison, in order to encourage good conduct, develop a sense of responsibility and secure the interest and cooperation of prisoners in their treatment.

Work

Rule 96

1. Sentenced prisoners shall have the opportunity to work and/or to actively participate in their rehabilitation, subject to a determination of physical and mental fitness by a physician or other qualified health-care professionals.
2. Sufficient work of a useful nature shall be provided to keep prisoners actively employed for a normal working day.

Rule 97

1. Prison labour must not be of an afflictive nature.
2. Prisoners shall not be held in slavery or servitude.
3. No prisoner shall be required to work for the personal or private benefit of any prison staff.

Rule 98

1. So far as possible the work provided shall be such as will maintain or increase the prisoners' ability to earn an honest living after release.
2. Vocational training in useful trades shall be provided for prisoners able to profit thereby and especially for young prisoners.
3. Within the limits compatible with proper vocational selection and with the requirements of institutional administration and discipline, prisoners shall be able to choose the type of work they wish to perform.

Rule 99

1. The organization and methods of work in prisons shall resemble as closely as possible those of similar work outside of prisons, so as to prepare prisoners for the conditions of normal occupational life.
2. The interests of the prisoners and of their vocational training, however, must not be subordinated to the purpose of making a financial profit from an industry in the prison.

Rule 100

1. Preferably, institutional industries and farms should be operated directly by the prison administration and not by private contractors.
2. Where prisoners are employed in work not controlled by the prison administration, they shall always be under the supervision of prison staff. Unless the work is for other departments of the government, the full normal wages for such work shall be paid to the prison administration by the persons to whom the labour is supplied, account being taken of the output of the prisoners.

Rule 101

1. The precautions laid down to protect the safety and health of free workers shall be equally observed in prisons.
2. Provision shall be made to indemnify prisoners against industrial injury, including occupational disease, on terms not less favourable than those extended by law to free workers.

Rule 102

1. The maximum daily and weekly working hours of the prisoners shall be fixed by law or by administrative regulation, taking into account local rules or custom in regard to the employment of free workers.
2. The hours so fixed shall leave one rest day a week and sufficient time for education and other activities required as part of the treatment and rehabilitation of prisoners.

Rule 103

1. There shall be a system of equitable remuneration of the work of prisoners.
2. Under the system, prisoners shall be allowed to spend at least a part of their earnings on approved articles for their own use and to send a part of their earnings to their family.
3. The system should also provide that a part of the earnings should be set aside by the prison administration so as to constitute a savings fund to be handed over to the prisoner on his or her release.

Education and recreation

Rule 104

1. Provision shall be made for the further education of all prisoners capable of profiting thereby, including religious instruction in the countries where this is possible. The education of illiterate prisoners and of young prisoners shall be compulsory and special attention shall be paid to it by the prison administration.
2. So far as practicable, the education of prisoners shall be integrated with the educational system of the country so that after their release they may continue their education without difficulty.

Rule 105

Recreational and cultural activities shall be provided in all prisons for the benefit of the mental and physical health of prisoners.

Social relations and aftercare

Rule 106

Special attention shall be paid to the maintenance and improvement of such relations between a prisoner and his or her family as are desirable in the best interests of both.

Rule 107

From the beginning of a prisoner's sentence, consideration shall be given to his or her future after release and he or she shall be encouraged and provided assistance to maintain or establish such relations with persons or agencies outside the prison as may promote the prisoner's rehabilitation and the best interests of his or her family.

Rule 108

1. Services and agencies, governmental or otherwise, which assist released prisoners in re-establishing themselves in society shall ensure, so far as is possible and necessary, that released prisoners are provided with appropriate documents and identification papers, have suitable homes and work to go to, are suitably and adequately clothed having regard to the climate and season and have sufficient means to reach their destination and maintain themselves in the period immediately following their release.
2. The approved representatives of such agencies shall have all necessary access to the prison and to prisoners and shall be taken into consultation as to the future of a prisoner from the beginning of his or her sentence.
3. It is desirable that the activities of such agencies shall be centralized or coordinated as far as possible in order to secure the best use of their efforts.

B. Prisoners with mental disabilities and/or health conditions

Rule 109

1. Persons who are found to be not criminally responsible, or who are later diagnosed with severe mental disabilities and/or health conditions, for whom staying in prison would mean an exacerbation of their condition, shall not be detained in prisons, and arrangements shall be made to transfer them to mental health facilities as soon as possible.

2. If necessary, other prisoners with mental disabilities and/or health conditions can be observed and treated in specialized facilities under the supervision of qualified health-care professionals.
3. The health-care service shall provide for the psychiatric treatment of all other prisoners who are in need of such treatment.

Rule 110

It is desirable that steps should be taken, by arrangement with the appropriate agencies, to ensure if necessary the continuation of psychiatric treatment after release and the provision of social-psychiatric aftercare.

C. Prisoners under arrest or awaiting trial

Rule 111

1. Persons arrested or imprisoned by reason of a criminal charge against them, who are detained either in police custody or in prison custody (jail) but have not yet been tried and sentenced, will be referred to as “untried prisoners” hereinafter in these rules.
2. Unconvicted prisoners are presumed to be innocent and shall be treated as such.
3. Without prejudice to legal rules for the protection of individual liberty or prescribing the procedure to be observed in respect of untried prisoners, these prisoners shall benefit from a special regime which is described in the following rules in its essential requirements only.

Rule 112

1. Untried prisoners shall be kept separate from convicted prisoners.
2. Young untried prisoners shall be kept separate from adults and shall in principle be detained in separate institutions.

Rule 113

Untried prisoners shall sleep singly in separate rooms, with the reservation of different local custom in respect of the climate.

Rule 114

Within the limits compatible with the good order of the institution, untried prisoners may, if they so desire, have their food procured at their own expense from the outside, either through the administration or through their family or friends. Otherwise, the administration shall provide their food.

Rule 115

An untried prisoner shall be allowed to wear his or her own clothing if it is clean and suitable. If he or she wears prison dress, it shall be different from that supplied to convicted prisoners.

Rule 116

An untried prisoner shall always be offered the opportunity to work, but shall not be required to work. If he or she chooses to work, he or she shall be paid for it.

Rule 117

An untried prisoner shall be allowed to procure at his or her own expense or at the expense of a third party such books, newspapers, writing material and other means of occupation as are compatible with the interests of the administration of justice and the security and good order of the institution.

Rule 118

An untried prisoner shall be allowed to be visited and treated by his or her own doctor or dentist if there are reasonable grounds for the application and he or she is able to pay any expenses incurred.

Rule 119

1. Every untried prisoner has the right to be promptly informed about the reasons for his or her detention and about any charges against him or her.
2. If an untried prisoner does not have a legal adviser of his or her own choice, he or she shall be entitled to have a legal adviser assigned to him or her by a judicial or other authority in all cases where the interests of justice so require and without payment by the untried prisoner if he or she does not have sufficient means to pay. Denial of access to a legal adviser shall be subject to independent review without delay.

Rule 120

1. The entitlements and modalities governing the access of an untried prisoner to his or her legal adviser or legal aid provider for the purpose of his or her defence shall be governed by the same principles as outlined in rule 61.
2. An untried prisoner shall, upon request, be provided with writing material for the preparation of documents related to his or her defence, including confidential instructions for his or her legal adviser or legal aid provider.

D. Civil prisoners

Rule 121

In countries where the law permits imprisonment for debt, or by order of a court under any other non-criminal process, persons so imprisoned shall not be subjected to any greater restriction or severity than is necessary to ensure safe custody and good order. Their treatment shall be not less favourable than that of untried prisoners, with the reservation, however, that they may possibly be required to work.

E. Persons arrested or detained without charge

Rule 122

Without prejudice to the provisions of article 9 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹⁵³ persons arrested or imprisoned without charge shall be accorded the same protection as that accorded under part I and part II, section C, of these rules. Relevant provisions of part II, section A, of these rules shall likewise be applicable where their application may be conducive to the benefit of this special group of persons in custody, provided that no measures shall be taken implying that re-education or rehabilitation is in any way appropriate to persons not convicted of any criminal offence.

*53rd plenary meeting
21 July 2015*

2015/21. Taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 68/191 of 18 December 2013 on taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular the obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including women and girls,

¹⁵³ See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Deeply concerned that the global prevalence of different manifestations of the gender-related killing of women and girls is reaching alarming proportions, and noting especially that one of every two women victims of homicide is killed by her intimate partner or a family member,¹⁵⁴

Deeply concerned also at the scourge of sexual violence in all situations, including those of conflict, and targeted mass kidnapping, rape and killing of women and girls,

Recalling the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences¹⁵⁵ and Council resolution [20/12](#) of 5 July 2012 on accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: remedies for women who have been subjected to violence,¹⁵⁶

Recalling also the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on creating and/or strengthening synergies and linkages on violence against women and girls¹⁵⁷ and Human Rights Council resolution [23/25](#) of 14 June 2013 on accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: preventing and responding to rape and other forms of sexual violence,¹⁵⁸

Recalling further its resolution [69/147](#) of 18 December 2014 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls,

Taking note with appreciation of the political declaration on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-ninth session,¹⁵⁹ which focused on the 20-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action,¹⁶⁰

Expressing its gratitude to the Government of Thailand for hosting and chairing the meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on gender-related killing of women and girls, held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 November 2014, as mandated by resolution [68/191](#),

Taking note with appreciation of the recommendations of the above-mentioned expert group meeting,¹⁶¹

Welcoming the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,¹⁶² in particular the endeavour of Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into criminal justice systems by developing and implementing national strategies and plans, in order to promote the full protection of women and girls from all acts of violence, including gender-related killing of women and girls,

Stressing the importance of eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres and significantly reducing all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, in the context of the post-2015 development agenda,¹⁶³

Stressing also that States have the obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including women and girls, to take measures to prevent and investigate acts of violence against women and girls and to prosecute and punish those responsible, no matter who the perpetrators of such crimes are, and to eliminate impunity,

Expressing appreciation for the work undertaken by the United Nations system in preventing and responding to all forms of violence against women and girls,

¹⁵⁴ See the *Global Study on Homicide 2013* prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

¹⁵⁵ [A/HRC/20/16](#).

¹⁵⁶ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum ([A/67/53](#) and Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

¹⁵⁷ [A/HRC/23/25](#).

¹⁵⁸ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* ([A/68/53](#)), chap. V, sect. A.

¹⁵⁹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 7* ([E/2015/27](#)), chap. I, sect. C, resolution [59/1](#), annex.

¹⁶⁰ *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, annex II.

¹⁶¹ See [E/CN.15/2015/16](#).

¹⁶² Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/19, annex.

¹⁶³ See [A/68/970](#) and Corr.1.

Viewing with appreciation the considerable input of many civil society organizations, as well as academia, in addressing the different forms of violence against women and girls, through research and direct action in their respective communities,

Taking note of national and international judicial decisions that condemn mass killing of women and girls,

Remaining alarmed by the high level of impunity with regard to gender-related killing of women and girls and the fact that violence against women and girls is among the least prosecuted and punished crimes in the world,

1. *Urges* Member States to take measures to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish acts of violence against women and girls, in particular gender-related killing, in accordance with national laws, and to act at all levels to end impunity for those responsible for committing these heinous crimes against women and girls;

2. *Also urges* Member States to strengthen their criminal justice response to gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular by taking measures to support their capacity to investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of such crime, and to consider measures in their capacities to provide, as appropriate, reparation, compensation and/or necessary legal, medical, psychological and social support to victims and their families or dependents;

3. *Encourages* Member States to consider ways to enhance international cooperation and the exchange of good practices in criminal matters related to gender-based violence, including by, as appropriate, ratifying or acceding to and implementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto¹⁶⁴ and other relevant international legal instruments;

4. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women¹⁶⁵ and the Optional Protocol thereto,¹⁶⁶ the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto¹⁶⁷ and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court¹⁶⁸ to effectively implement those instruments;

5. *Invites* Member States to take into consideration the existing practical tools, as recommended by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on gender-related killing of women and girls at its meeting held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 November 2014, namely the Latin American model protocol for the investigation of gender-related killing of women and the recommendations for the effective investigation of the crime of femicide;¹⁶⁹

6. *Encourages* Member States to promote integrated and comprehensive strategies to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls, including gender-related killing of women and girls, that include early and continuous educational programmes, community mobilization and awareness-raising, in order to counter attitudes and social factors that foster, justify or tolerate any violence against women and girls;

7. *Urges* Member States to adopt integrated and comprehensive responses to violence against women in order to reduce risks of gender-related killing through early intervention and risk assessment, exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish gender-related killing of women and girls, ensure equal protection of women under the law and equal access to justice, consider adopting an integrated, multidisciplinary and gender-sensitive approach to the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of gender-related killing of women and girls to minimize the risk of secondary victimization in the criminal justice system and develop appropriate mechanisms and enhance capacities for forensic investigations to identify human remains and missing persons;

¹⁶⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

¹⁶⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

¹⁶⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 2131, No. 20378.

¹⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, vols. 1577, 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and General Assembly resolution 66/138, annex.

¹⁶⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

¹⁶⁹ See E/CN.15/2015/16, para. 8.

8. *Encourages* Member States to criminalize, prosecute and punish rape and other forms of sexual and gender-related violence against women and girls committed in all situations, including situations of conflict, taking into account international standards, and urges, where appropriate, relevant stakeholders to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, in particular law enforcement, judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks to provide sustainable assistance and access to justice to women and girls affected by gender-related violence;
9. *Also encourages* Member States to ensure that appropriate punishment for perpetrators of gender-related killing of women and girls are in place and are proportionate to the gravity of the offence;
10. *Calls upon* Member States to protect and support victims, drawing on the important role of civil society and ensuring effective cooperation between all relevant State agencies, including, where appropriate, the judiciary, prosecution services, law enforcement agencies, health and social services and local and regional authorities;
11. *Urges* Member States to ensure that victims and victims' survivors are informed of their rights and can participate, as appropriate, in the criminal proceedings, taking into account their dignity, well-being and safety, and that victims are supported through appropriate services;
12. *Encourages* relevant United Nations entities and agencies, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to continue to support Member States in developing and implementing strategies and policies, upon request, at the national, regional and international levels to address and prevent gender-related killing of women and girls;
13. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations entities and agencies, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the High Commissioner, UN-Women and other specialized funds and programmes of the United Nations, to raise awareness regarding gender-related killing of women and girls;
14. *Encourages* Member States to collect, disaggregate, analyse and report data on gender-related killing of women and girls, according to the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes endorsed by the Statistical Commission and, where appropriate, to the extent possible, involve civil society, academia, victims' representatives and relevant international organizations and provide appropriate training to relevant personnel on technical and ethical aspects of such data collection and analysis;
15. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to continue to conduct and coordinate relevant research on gender-related killing of women and girls, particularly in connection with the standardization of the collection, disaggregation, analysis and reporting of data;
16. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to prepare, in collaboration with Member States, an analytical study on gender-related killing of women and girls at the global level, containing disaggregated data, including from relevant stakeholders, on this phenomenon to illustrate its different forms and patterns;
17. *Invites* the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to include in their work programmes the issue of gender-related killing of women and girls with a view to promoting ways and means of more effectively preventing, investigating, prosecuting and punishing such crime, and to develop appropriate training material;
18. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;
19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

*53rd plenary meeting
21 July 2015*

2015/22. Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its resolutions related to technical assistance in countering terrorism, and especially the most recent resolutions such as resolutions 68/178 of 18 December 2013 on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, 68/187 of 18 December 2013 on technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, 68/276 of 13 June 2014 on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review, 69/127 of 10 December 2014 on measures to eliminate international terrorism and 69/197 of 18 December 2014 on strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Taking note of relevant Security Council resolutions related to technical assistance in countering terrorism, especially the most recent resolutions,¹⁷⁰

Stressing again the need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation to effectively prevent and combat terrorism, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of States through the provision of technical assistance, based on the needs and priorities identified by requesting States,

Emphasizing the need to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, while fully respecting the fundamental principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and international law,

Recalling its resolution 68/187, in which, inter alia, it called upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, for building the capacity of Member States to become a party to and implement international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, including through targeted programmes and the training of relevant criminal justice officials, the development of and participation in relevant initiatives and the elaboration of technical tools and publications, in consultation with Member States,

Reiterating all aspects of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy¹⁷¹ and the need for States to continue to implement the Strategy, as reaffirmed in General Assembly resolution 68/276, in which the Assembly noted with appreciation the activities undertaken in the area of capacity-building by United Nations entities, including the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force entities, inter alia, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, to assist Member States, upon their request, in implementing the Strategy, and encouraged the Task Force to ensure focused delivery of capacity-building assistance, including in the framework of the Integrated Assistance for Countering Terrorism initiative,

Reiterating also that it is the primary responsibility of Member States to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, recognizing the need to enhance the coordinating and main role that the United Nations plays in facilitating coherence in the implementation of the Strategy at the national, subregional, regional and international levels and in providing assistance, especially in the area of capacity-building, as affirmed in pillar III of the Strategy, and encouraging other international, regional and subregional organizations to coordinate their activities in this regard with the United Nations,

Recalling that in its resolution 68/276 it expressed concern at the increasing flow of international recruits to terrorist organizations, including foreign terrorist fighters, and at the threat that that posed for all Member States, including countries of origin, transit and destination, and recalling also that it expressed concern at the increase, in some regions, in incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups, for any purpose, including with the aim of raising funds or gaining political concessions, and noted that ransoms paid to terrorists were used as one of the sources of funding for their activities, including further kidnappings,

¹⁷⁰ Especially resolutions 2178 (2014) adopted on 24 September 2014, 2133 (2014) of 27 January 2014, 2195 (2014) of 19 December 2014 and 2199 (2015) of 12 February 2015.

¹⁷¹ General Assembly resolution 60/288.

Recalling also the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015,¹⁷²

Noting, in this regard, the need to continue to counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including any existing, growing or potential links, in some cases, between transnational organized crime, illicit drug-related activities, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, in order to enhance criminal justice responses to those crimes,

Alarmed by the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated recently by terrorist groups in some countries,

Recognizing the important role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime within the entities of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force in countering the financing of terrorism and in legal and criminal justice responses to terrorism, and recalling the importance of coordination among United Nations entities and of the work of the Task Force to promote accountability and transparency and avoid duplication in their work,

Affirming that States must ensure that any measure taken to counter terrorism complies with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Noting the work undertaken and the progress achieved in providing technical assistance for countering money-laundering and the financing of terrorism within the framework of relevant and specialized regional and international bodies,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on technical assistance in implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism,¹⁷³

Noting the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support Member States in their efforts in preventing and countering terrorism in the crime prevention and criminal justice context, in particular with regard to the compilation of good practices in the area of assistance to and support for victims of terrorism, including the role of victims in the criminal justice framework, and reiterating that this work needs to be done in close coordination with Member States,

Reaffirming that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

1. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the existing international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, in close coordination with the relevant entities of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States for the ratification and legislative incorporation of those international legal instruments;

2. *Urges* Member States to continue to strengthen international coordination and cooperation in order to prevent and counter terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, to effectively implement relevant international instruments and United Nations resolutions that address the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, to counter the financing of terrorism, including through hostage-taking and kidnapping for ransom, to enter, when appropriate, into bilateral, regional and multilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, and to ensure adequate training of all relevant personnel in executing international cooperation activities, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States to that end, including by continuing and enhancing its assistance related to international legal cooperation pertaining to countering terrorism and fostering the development of strong and effective central authorities for international cooperation in criminal matters;

¹⁷² Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/19, annex.

¹⁷³ [E/CN.15/2015/4](#).

3. *Stresses* the importance of the development and maintenance of effective, fair, humane, transparent and accountable criminal justice systems, in accordance with applicable international law, as a fundamental basis of any strategy to counter terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, whenever appropriate, to take into account in its technical assistance to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law;

4. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to strengthen the provision of technical assistance to Member States, upon request and within its mandate, on effective measures, based on the rule of law, for criminal justice responses addressing the prevention of terrorism, in full conformity with human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Also calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, for building the capacity of Member States to become party to and implement international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, including through targeted programmes and the training of relevant criminal justice and law enforcement officials, the development of and participation in relevant initiatives and the elaboration of technical tools and publications, in consultation with Member States;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to develop specialized legal knowledge in the area of countering and preventing terrorism and pertinent thematic areas of relevance to the mandate of the Office and to continue to provide assistance to requesting Member States with regard to criminal justice responses to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as set out in the international legal instruments and as detailed in relevant United Nations resolutions;

7. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and in collaboration with, when appropriate, the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, to provide assistance to requesting Member States in addressing the threat of foreign terrorist fighters, through its capacity-building activities, with regard to enhancing their cooperation and developing relevant measures, as well as appropriate criminal justice responses, to prevent the financing, mobilization, travel, recruitment, organization and radicalization of foreign terrorist fighters, and to ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in supporting terrorist acts is brought to justice in compliance with obligations under international law and applicable domestic law;

8. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen cooperation in enhanced operational and timely sharing of information related to foreign terrorist fighters, as well as to cooperate and to address, as appropriate, including through the effective exchange of information and the sharing of experiences and good practices, and to counter any existing, growing or potential links, in some cases, between transnational organized crime, illicit drug-related activities, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, in order to enhance criminal justice responses to those crimes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its relevant mandates, to support the efforts of Member States in this regard, upon request;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to support, as appropriate, the development of improved cooperation between Member States in relation to kidnapping and hostage-taking committed by terrorist groups by providing, upon request, technical assistance to develop their capability to prevent future incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking by terrorists and prevent terrorists from benefiting directly or indirectly from ransom payments and political concessions;

10. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to develop its specialized legal knowledge in close consultation with Member States to continue to provide assistance to requesting Member States so as to counter the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, to support those Member States in effectively criminalizing, investigating and prosecuting such acts in accordance with applicable international law on due process and fully respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to encourage the use of the Internet as a tool for countering the spread of terrorism;

11. *Further requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to support requesting Member States in the implementation of capacity-building programmes to strengthen crime prevention and criminal justice responses to the destruction of cultural heritage by terrorists;

12. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, to continue to strengthen its cooperation with international organizations and relevant entities of the United Nations system, as well as with international, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements, in the delivery of technical assistance, whenever appropriate;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to give high priority to the implementation of an integrated approach through the promotion of its regional and thematic programmes, including by assisting States, as requested;

14. *Welcomes* the ongoing joint initiatives developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, as well as by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States that have supported the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through financial contributions, and invites Member States to consider making additional sustainable voluntary financial contributions, as well as providing in-kind support, especially in view of the need for enhanced and effective delivery of technical assistance to assist Member States with the implementation of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;¹⁷¹

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with sufficient resources to carry out activities within its mandate, to assist Member States, upon request, in the implementation of the relevant elements of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

*53rd plenary meeting
21 July 2015*

2015/23. Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the significance of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [64/293](#) of 30 July 2010, and underlining the importance of its full implementation,

Reaffirming that the Global Plan of Action was developed:

(a) To promote universal ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹⁷⁴ and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,¹⁷⁵ as well as other relevant international instruments that address trafficking in persons, and to reinforce the implementation of existing instruments against trafficking in persons,

(b) To help Member States to reinforce their political commitments and legal obligations to prevent and combat trafficking in persons,

(c) To promote comprehensive, coordinated and consistent responses at the national, regional and international levels to counter trafficking in persons,

(d) To promote a human rights-based, gender- and age-sensitive approach in addressing all factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons and in strengthening the criminal justice response, which are necessary to prevent trafficking in persons, protect victims and prosecute perpetrators,

¹⁷⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

¹⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

(e) To raise awareness within the United Nations system and also among States and other stakeholders, such as the private sector, civil society organizations and the international and national mass media, and the public at large,

(f) To foster cooperation and coordination among all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, and within various entities of the United Nations system, taking into account existing best practices and lessons learned,

Recalling its resolution 2013/41 of 25 July 2013, entitled “Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons”,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes an offence and a serious threat to human dignity and physical integrity, human rights and development,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including as coordinator of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons,

Recalling that the Inter-Agency Coordination Group was established to foster coordination and cooperation among relevant United Nations agencies and other international organizations involved in combating human trafficking,

Recognizing that the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, within its mandate, contributes to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action,

Recognizing also that the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, established consistent with the Global Plan of Action, aims at providing victims of trafficking in persons with humanitarian, legal and financial aid through established channels of assistance, such as governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and welcoming contributions made to the Trust Fund by States and other relevant stakeholders,

Welcoming the high-level meeting of the General Assembly held during its sixty-seventh session, from 13 to 15 May 2013, to appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action,

Taking note of the decision of the General Assembly, in its resolution [68/192](#) of 18 December 2013, to appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action on a four-year basis, starting at its seventy-second session,

Taking note also of the decision of the General Assembly, in its resolution [68/192](#), to designate 30 July as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, to be observed every year beginning in 2014,

Recalling the continued role of relevant subregional, regional and cross-regional mechanisms and initiatives to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons,

1. *Reiterates* the crucial importance of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,¹⁷⁵ which entered into force on 25 December 2003 and which provided for the first time an internationally agreed definition of the crime of trafficking in persons, aimed at the prevention of trafficking in persons, the protection of its victims and the prosecution of its perpetrators, and in this regard calls upon Member States that have not yet done so to consider as a matter of priority ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime¹⁷⁴ and its Trafficking in Persons Protocol;

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which was established to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention and the Trafficking in Persons Protocol;

3. *Urges* Member States and other stakeholders mentioned in the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,¹⁷⁶ and invites the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and other relevant

¹⁷⁶ General Assembly resolution [64/293](#).

international, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to continue to contribute to the full and effective implementation of the Global Plan of Action, including by means of strengthening cooperation and improving coordination among themselves in achieving that goal;

4. *Welcomes* the first observation of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons in 2014, and invites all Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, to continue to actively observe the World Day every year;

5. *Also welcomes* the publication of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2014*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime pursuant to the Global Plan of Action, looks forward to the next such report, to be produced by the Office in 2016, and encourages Member States to provide to the Office evidence-based data on patterns, forms and flows of trafficking in persons;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to integrate the Global Plan of Action into its programmes and activities and to continue to provide, at the national and regional levels, technical assistance to countries, upon their request, aimed at strengthening their ability to ensure full and effective implementation of the Global Plan of Action;

7. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within the framework of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, to continue to increase the activities of the Group related to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action;

8. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as coordinator of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group, and other members of the Group, to continue to contribute in line with their existing mandates to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and in this regard invites the Office and other members of the Group to continue to elaborate, in cooperation with Member States, a list of concrete measures planned until 2017 aimed at implementing the Global Plan of Action and to present it in an appropriate manner to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in its capacity as fund manager of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, to continue to encourage contributions by States and all other relevant stakeholders to the Trust Fund;

10. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing an update on the status of the contributions to and expenditures of the Trust Fund.

*53rd plenary meeting
21 July 2015*

2015/24. Improving the quality and availability of statistics on crime and criminal justice for policy development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [67/189](#) of 20 December 2012, in which the Assembly requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue strengthening the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable and comparable data and information, and strongly encouraged Member States to share such data and information with the Office,

Recalling also its resolution 2013/37 of 25 July 2013 on improving the quality and availability of statistics on crime and criminal justice for policy development, in which it affirmed its support of the activities in the road map to improve the quality and availability of crime statistics at the national and international levels¹⁷⁷ and approved the plan to finalize by 2015 an international classification of crimes for statistical purposes as a methodological tool for harmonization and for the improvement of international and regional comparability,

¹⁷⁷ See [E/CN.3/2013/11](#).

Reaffirming the commitment to endeavour to strengthen the development and use of tools and methods aimed at increasing the availability and quality of statistical information and analytical studies on crime and criminal justice at the international level, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of responses to crime and to enhance the effectiveness of crime prevention and criminal justice programmes at the national, regional and international levels, as set forth in the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015,¹⁷⁸

Recognizing the importance and cross-cutting nature of information and statistics in developing and supporting public policies at the national, regional and global levels, as well as in measuring the implementation of relevant international instruments in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

Emphasizing that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Statistical Commission should continue their complementary and joint efforts in the field of statistics on crime and criminal justice,

Underscoring the importance of technical assistance and of building the capacity of Member States to collect, analyse, report and disseminate accurate and comparable statistics on crime and criminal justice,

1. *Acknowledges* the road map to improve the quality and availability of crime statistics at the national and international levels¹⁷⁷ as a valuable conceptual and operational framework to improve statistics on crime and criminal justice, and encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and all relevant partners to continue activities for its implementation, subject to availability of resources;

2. *Welcomes* the deliberations of the Statistical Commission at its forty-sixth session, held from 3 to 6 March 2015, at which the Commission endorsed the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes as an international statistical standard for the collection of data from both administrative records and statistical surveys and as an analytical tool to elicit specific information on factors driving crime, confirms the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the custodian of the International Classification, and endorses the implementation plan,¹⁷⁹ including the creation of a technical advisory group to provide the Office with substantive advice and support in the maintenance of the International Classification;

3. *Recognizes* the comprehensive and inclusive preparatory work conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, Member States and experts to develop the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and test its feasibility;

4. *Invites* Member States to develop national plans for the gradual adoption of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and the strengthening of national statistical systems on criminal justice in order to contribute to the effectiveness of their national legislation and policies, taking into account relevant international instruments in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, by encouraging a productive dialogue among national authorities responsible for the collection, processing and dissemination of statistics on crime and criminal justice, including national statistical offices, so as to foster the implementation of the International Classification by all national authorities concerned;

5. *Encourages* Member States to continue their efforts to improve crime statistics at the global level, through, inter alia, the exchange of experiences and good practices and the establishment of statistical centres in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and in that context reaffirms the positive contribution of the Centre of Excellence for Statistical Information on Governance, Victimization, Public Security and Justice, established jointly by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico;

6. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Member States to continue to support the implementation of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes in accordance with the outlined implementation plan and subject to availability of resources, with particular reference to information campaigns, methodological support and technical assistance provided to requesting Member States;

¹⁷⁸ Resolution 2015/19, annex.

¹⁷⁹ See [E/CN.3/2015/7](#).

7. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the technical advisory group to be established and in consultation with Member States, and within its existing mandates, to support the maintenance of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes through, inter alia, the review and evaluation of the implementation plan, and requests the Office to continue to provide relevant information to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to the Statistical Commission for their consideration in this regard;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop, in consultation with Member States, technical and methodological tools to assist countries in producing and disseminating accurate and comparable statistics on crime and criminal justice, and to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States in order to enhance their capacity to collect, analyse and report data on crime and criminal justice;

9. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes described above, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

10. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

53rd plenary meeting
21 July 2015

2015/25. Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, entitled “International cooperation against the world drug problem”, in which it decided to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review the progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,¹⁸⁰ including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

Recalling also its resolutions 68/197 of 18 December 2013 and 69/201 of 18 December 2014, entitled “International cooperation against the world drug problem”,

Recalling further its resolution 69/200 of 18 December 2014, entitled “Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016”,

1. *Welcomes* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 58/8 of 17 March 2015;¹⁸¹
2. *Decides* that the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem shall be convened for three days, from 19 to 21 April 2016, at United Nations Headquarters in New York, following the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, scheduled to be held in March 2016;
3. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements for the special session shall be as follows:
 - (a) The special session shall consist of a general debate and interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables conducted in parallel to the plenary;
 - (b) The opening of the special session shall include statements by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the President of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Director-General of the World Health Organization;

¹⁸⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8 (E/2009/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

¹⁸¹ *Ibid.*, 2015, *Supplement No. 8 (E/2015/28)*, chap. I, sect. C.

(c) The general debate shall include statements by the regional groups, Member States, observer States and observers, relevant international organizations and representatives of non-governmental organizations;

(d) Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are invited to participate in the special session in accordance with the rules of procedure and established practice of the General Assembly;

(e) In accordance with the rules of procedure and practice developed for other special sessions of the General Assembly, the President of the Assembly, in consultation with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which will take into consideration inputs from other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, shall draw up a list of representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society and the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders that may participate in the special session, with due regard to geographical balance;

(f) The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session, shall address in an open-ended manner, supported and guided by the President of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements, including chairing arrangements, speakers and participation, for the following round tables, while considering the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,¹⁸⁰ in line with Assembly resolutions 67/193 and 69/201:

Round table 1: Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion (“drugs and health”):

- (i) Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care;
- (ii) Ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion;

Round table 2: Supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation (“drugs and crime”):

- (i) Domestic, regional and cross-regional responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering, including, where appropriate, in connection with the financing of terrorism, and promoting judicial cooperation in criminal matters;
- (ii) Addressing emerging issues, including new psychoactive substances, precursors and the misuse of the Internet;

Round table 3: Cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities:

- (i) Addressing drug-related issues in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹⁸² and other relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;
- (ii) Drugs and youth, women, children and communities;

Round table 4: Cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation:

- (i) New challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;
- (ii) Strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance, leading up to 2019;

¹⁸² General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

Round table 5: Alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues:

- (i) Drugs, addressing socioeconomic issues and fostering alternative development, including preventive alternative development;
- (ii) Enhancing regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented, balanced drug control policy;

(g) A summary of the salient points raised during the round tables will be prepared by the Chairs of those round tables, to be presented at the plenary;

4. *Requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, to report to the General Assembly at its special session on the preparations that have been undertaken for the session, through the Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session, which was established by the Commission in its decision 57/2 of 4 December 2014;¹⁸³

5. *Also requests* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to produce a short, substantive, concise and action-oriented document comprising a set of operational recommendations, based upon a review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements as well as ways to address long-standing and emerging challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, and decides that the document, to be recommended for adoption at the plenary of the special session, should, inter alia, address measures to reach an effective balance between supply and demand reduction and address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice and security fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of an inclusive preparatory process, including extensive substantive consultations, and encourages organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society, academia, the scientific community and other relevant stakeholders to continue to fully contribute to the process by actively participating in the preparations by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice;

7. *Encourages* all Member States, observer States and observers to consider being represented at the special session at the highest possible level;

8. *Also encourages* all Member States, observer States and observers to consider the possible participation of youth representatives at the special session;

9. *Reaffirms* its decision, taken in resolution 67/193, to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing regular budget resources;

10. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

53rd plenary meeting
21 July 2015

2015/26. Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society,¹⁸⁴

Recalling also its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 on the follow-up to the World Summit and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the mandate that it gave to the Commission,

¹⁸³ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8A (E/2014/28/Add.1)*, chap. I, sect. B.

¹⁸⁴ See A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.

Recalling further its resolution 2014/27 of 16 July 2014 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 69/204 of 19 December 2014 on information and communications technologies for development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 68/302 of 31 July 2014 on the modalities for the overall review by the General Assembly of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels,¹⁸⁵

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Digital development”,¹⁸⁶

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for his role in helping to ensure completion of the aforementioned reports in a timely manner,

Taking stock: reviewing the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

1. *Notes* the ongoing implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,¹⁸⁴ emphasizing, in particular, its multi-stakeholder nature, the roles played in this regard by leading agencies as action line facilitators and the roles of the regional commissions and the United Nations Group on the Information Society, and expresses its appreciation for the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in assisting the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the World Summit;

2. *Takes note* of the reports of many United Nations entities, with their respective executive summaries, submitted as input for the elaboration of the annual report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Commission and published on the website of the Commission as mandated in Council resolution 2007/8 of 25 July 2007, and recalls the importance of close coordination among the leading action line facilitators and with the secretariat of the Commission;

3. *Notes* the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional level facilitated by the regional commissions, as observed in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels,¹⁸⁵ including the steps taken in this respect, and emphasizes the need to continue to address issues of specific interest to each region, focusing on the challenges and obstacles that each may be facing with regard to the implementation of all goals and principles established by the World Summit, with particular attention to information and communications technology for development;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of maintaining a process of coordinating the multi-stakeholder implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit through effective tools, with the goal of exchanging information among action line facilitators, identifying issues that need improvement and discussing the modalities of reporting on the overall implementation process, encourages all stakeholders to continue to contribute information to the stocktaking database maintained by the International Telecommunication Union on the implementation of the goals established by the World Summit, and invites United Nations entities to update information on their initiatives in the stocktaking database;

5. *Highlights* the urgent need for the incorporation of the recommendations contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit in the revised guidelines for United Nations country teams on preparing the common country assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, including the addition of an information and communications technology for development component;

6. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 60/252 of 27 March 2006, in which the Assembly requested the Council to oversee the system-wide follow-up to the Geneva and Tunis outcomes of the World Summit and, to that

¹⁸⁵ A/70/63-E/2015/10.

¹⁸⁶ E/CN.16/2015/2.

end, requested the Council, at its substantive session of 2006, to review the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission, including considering strengthening the Commission, taking into account the multi-stakeholder approach;

7. *Notes with satisfaction* the holding in Geneva, from 9 to 13 June 2014, of the high-level event on the 10-year review of the World Summit, organized by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Development Programme, and its two outcome documents, namely, a statement on the implementation of World Summit outcomes, and a vision for the World Summit beyond 2015;

8. *Calls upon* all States, in building the information society, to take steps to avoid and to refrain from taking any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries and that hinders their well-being;

9. *Welcomes* the progress highlighted in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit, in particular the fact that the rapid growth in access to mobile telephony since 2005 has meant that more than half of the world's inhabitants should have access to information and communications technologies within their reach and make use of them by the end of 2016, in line with one of the World Summit targets, the value of this progress being enhanced by the advent of new services and applications, including m-health, m-agriculture, mobile transactions, m-government, e-government, e-business and development services, which offer great potential for the development of the information society;

10. *Notes with great concern* that many developing countries lack affordable access to information and communications technologies and that, for the majority of the poor, the promise of science and technology, including information and communications technologies, remains unfulfilled, and emphasizes the need to effectively harness technology, including information and communications technologies, to bridge the digital divide;

11. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing the new technologies, such as an appropriate enabling environment, sufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity, as well as issues related to technology ownership, standards and flows, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to provide adequate resources, enhanced capacity-building and transfer of technology and knowledge to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

12. *Also recognizes* the rapid growth in broadband access networks, especially in developed countries, and underscores the need to urgently address the growing digital divide in the availability, affordability, quality of access and use of broadband between and within high-income countries and other regions, with special emphasis on supporting the least developed countries, small island developing States and Africa as a continent;

13. *Further recognizes* that the transition to a mobile-led communications environment is leading to significant changes in operators' business models and that it requires significant rethinking of the ways in which individuals and communities make use of networks and devices, of government strategies and of ways in which communications networks can be used to achieve development objectives;

14. *Recognizes* that, even with all the developments and the improvement observed in some respects, in numerous developing countries information and communications technologies and their applications are still not available to or affordable for the majority of people, particularly those living in rural areas;

15. *Also recognizes* that the number of Internet users is growing and that, in some instances, the digital divide is also changing in character from one based on whether access is available to one based on the quality of access, information and skills that users can obtain and the value that they can derive from it, and recognizes in this regard that there is a need to prioritize the use of information and communications technologies through innovative approaches, including multi-stakeholder approaches, within national and regional development strategies;

16. *Takes note* of the global report of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development entitled *The State of Broadband 2014: Broadband for All*, and notes with interest the continuous efforts of the Broadband Commission in promoting high-level advocacy for the establishment of an enabling environment for broadband connectivity, in particular through national broadband plans and public-private partnerships for ensuring that the development agenda challenges are met with appropriate impact and in conjunction with all stakeholders;

17. *Notes* that, while a solid foundation for capacity-building in information and communications technology has been laid in many areas with regard to building the information society, there is still a need for continuing efforts to address the ongoing challenges, especially for developing countries and the least developed countries, and draws attention to the positive impact of broadened capacity development that involves institutions, organizations and entities dealing with information and communications technologies and Internet governance issues;

18. *Recognizes* the need to focus on capacity development policies and sustainable support to further enhance the impact of activities and initiatives at the national and local levels aimed at providing advice, services and support with a view to building an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society;

19. *Notes* that topics continue to emerge, such as e-environment applications and the contribution of information and communications technologies to early warning, mitigating climate change, social networking, virtualization and cloud computing and services, mobile Internet and mobile-based services, cybersecurity, the gender gap, the protection of online privacy and the empowerment and protection, especially against cyberexploitation and abuse, of vulnerable groups of society, in particular children and young people;

20. *Reiterates* the importance of information and communications technology indicators as a monitoring and evaluation tool for measuring the digital divide among countries and within societies and in informing decision makers when formulating policies and strategies for social, cultural and economic development, and emphasizes that the standardization and harmonization of reliable and regularly updated indicators capturing the performance, efficiency, affordability and quality of goods and services are essential for implementing information and communications technology policies;

Internet governance

21. *Reaffirms* that the outcomes of the World Summit related to Internet governance, namely, the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, are to be pursued by the Secretary-General through two distinct processes, and recognizes that the two processes may be complementary;

22. *Also reaffirms* paragraphs 34 to 37 and 67 to 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;¹⁸⁷

Enhanced cooperation

23. *Recognizes* the importance of enhanced cooperation in the future, to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact on international public policy issues;

24. *Also recognizes* that the process towards enhanced cooperation, to be started by the Secretary-General, involving all relevant organizations by the end of the first quarter of 2006, will involve all stakeholders in their respective roles, will proceed as quickly as possible, consistent with legal process, and will be responsive to innovation; that relevant organizations should commence a process towards enhanced cooperation involving all stakeholders, proceeding as quickly as possible and being responsive to innovation; and that the same relevant organizations shall be requested to provide annual performance reports;

25. *Recalls* that, in its resolution [67/195](#) of 21 December 2012, the General Assembly invited the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to establish a working group on enhanced cooperation to examine the mandate of the World Summit regarding enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda, through seeking, compiling and reviewing inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders, and to make recommendations on how to fully implement that mandate, and requested the working group to report to the Commission at its seventeenth session, in 2014, as an input to the overall review of the outcomes of the World Summit;

26. *Also recalls* that, in its resolution [67/195](#), the General Assembly requested the Chair of the Commission to ensure that the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation had balanced representation between Governments,

¹⁸⁷ See A/60/687.

from the five regional groups of the Commission, and invitees from all other stakeholders, namely, the private sector, civil society, technical and academic communities and intergovernmental and international organizations, drawn equally from developing and developed countries;

27. *Notes* that the Working Group held four meetings between May 2013 and May 2014, at which it examined the mandate of enhanced cooperation by issuing a questionnaire and seeking, compiling and reviewing inputs from all Member States and other stakeholders for the purpose of developing draft recommendations, as stipulated by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/195;

28. *Takes note* of the report of the Chair of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation of the Commission,¹⁸⁸ and expresses its gratitude to the Chair and members and other stakeholders that submitted inputs and contributed to the work of the Working Group;

29. *Notes* that consensus emerged on certain issues while a wide divergence of opinions persisted in a number of other issues that prevented the Working Group from making recommendations on how to fully implement enhanced cooperation as contained in the Tunis Agenda, as stipulated in the mandate given to the Working Group by the General Assembly in resolution 67/195;

30. *Also notes* the work initiated by the Working Group to review the identified international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, list where there are existing international mechanisms addressing these issues, identify the status of mechanisms, if any, and whether they are addressing the issues, and attempt to identify gaps in order to ascertain what type of recommendations may be required;

31. *Recalls* that, in its resolution 2014/27, the Council recommended that that work may be further continued by the secretariat of the Commission with a view to the submission of findings to the Commission at its intersessional meeting for further discussion and their integration into the 10-year review of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, to be prepared for consideration by the Commission at its eighteenth session;

Internet Governance Forum

32. *Recognizes* the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on various matters, as reflected in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda, including discussion on public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance;

33. *Also recognizes* that national and regional Internet Governance Forum initiatives have emerged, taking place in all regions and addressing Internet governance issues of relevance and priority to the organizing country or region;

34. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 69/204, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to submit, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit, information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum of the Commission,¹⁸⁹ particularly on enhancing the participation of developing countries;

35. *Notes* the holding of the ninth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, hosted by the Government of Turkey, in Istanbul from 2 to 5 September 2014, under the main theme “Connecting continents for enhanced multi-stakeholder Internet governance”;

36. *Welcomes* the holding of the tenth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, to be hosted by the Government of Brazil and scheduled to take place in João Pessoa from 10 to 13 November 2015, and notes that, in the preparatory process for the meeting, recommendations from the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum have been taken into consideration;

37. *Also welcomes* the offer of Mexico to host the eleventh meeting of the Internet Governance Forum in 2016, subject to the decision by the General Assembly on the renewal of the mandate of the Forum;

¹⁸⁸ E/CN.16/2014/CRP.3.

¹⁸⁹ A/67/65-E/2012/48 and Corr.1.

The road ahead

38. *Notes* the substantive discussion on the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit during the eighteenth session of the Commission, held from 4 to 8 May 2015, and the concluded work of the Commission of collecting input from all facilitators and stakeholders as part of the preparations for its 10-year review report on the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, and recalls its requests to the Commission to report thereon, through the Council, to the General Assembly as it makes an overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit in 2015;

39. *Also notes* the holding of the high-level event on the 10-year review of the World Summit, coordinated by the International Telecommunication Union, as an extended version of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, in Geneva, from 10 to 13 June 2014;

40. *Further notes* the holding of a 10-year review event of the World Summit, entitled “Towards knowledge societies for peace and sustainable development”, coordinated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in Paris, from 25 to 27 February 2013, and the final statement of the event;

41. *Notes* the holding of the fifth World Telecommunication/Information and Communications Technology Policy Forum on international Internet-related public policy matters, in Geneva, from 14 to 16 May 2013, and its output opinions;

42. *Also notes* the holding of the BYND 2015 Global Youth Summit, organized by the International Telecommunication Union and hosted by the Government of Costa Rica in San José, from 9 to 11 September 2013, and its declaration;

43. *Urges* United Nations entities still not actively cooperating in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit through the United Nations system to take the necessary steps and commit to a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society and to catalyse the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;¹⁹⁰

44. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to keep the goal of bridging the digital divide, in its different forms, an area of priority concern, to put into effect sound strategies that contribute to the development of e-government and to continue to focus on pro-poor information and communications technology policies and applications, including access to broadband at the grass-roots level, with a view to narrowing the digital divide among and within countries;

45. *Urges* all stakeholders to prioritize the development of innovative approaches that will stimulate the provision of universal access to affordable broadband infrastructure for developing countries and the use of relevant broadband services in order to ensure the development of an inclusive, development-oriented and people-centred information society, and to minimize the digital divide;

46. *Calls upon* international and regional organizations to continue to assess and report on a regular basis on the universal accessibility of nations to information and communications technologies, with the aim of creating equitable opportunities for the growth of the information and communications technology sectors of developing countries;

47. *Urges* all countries to make concrete efforts to fulfil their commitments under the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;¹⁹¹

48. *Calls upon* United Nations organizations and other relevant organizations and forums, in accordance with the outcomes of the World Summit, to periodically review and modify the methodologies for information and communications technology indicators, taking into account different levels of development and national circumstances, and therefore:

(a) *Notes* with appreciation the work of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development;

¹⁹⁰ General Assembly resolution 55/2.

¹⁹¹ *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.

(b) Also notes the holding, in Tbilisi, from 24 to 26 November 2014, of the twelfth World Telecommunication/Information and Communications Technology Indicators Symposium;

(c) Encourages Member States to collect relevant data at the national level on information and communications technologies, so as to be able to respond satisfactorily to surveys such as the World Summit targets survey, to share information about country case studies and to collaborate with other countries in capacity-building exchange programmes;

(d) Encourages United Nations organizations and other relevant organizations and forums to promote assessment of the impact of information and communications technologies on poverty and in key sectors to identify the knowledge and skills needed to boost impacts;

(e) Calls upon international development partners to provide financial support to further facilitate capacity-building and technical assistance in developing countries;

49. *Invites* the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to support the review and assessment work of the Commission regarding follow-up to the World Summit, while acknowledging with appreciation the financial support provided by the Governments of Finland, Switzerland and the United States of America to this fund;

50. *Recalls* paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda, in which the General Assembly was requested to make an overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit in 2015, and paragraph 106, according to which the World Summit implementation and follow-up should be an integral part of the United Nations integrated follow-up to major United Nations conferences;

51. *Also recalls* paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution [67/195](#), in which the Assembly reaffirmed its role in the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, to be held by the end of 2015, as recognized in paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda;

52. *Further recalls* paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution [68/198](#) of 20 December 2013, in which the Assembly decided to finalize the modalities of the overall review as early as possible, and invited the President of the Assembly to appoint two co-facilitators to convene open intergovernmental consultations for that purpose;

53. *Recommends* that, consistent with the World Summit process and subject to the decision by the General Assembly, an appropriate preparatory process be launched, drawing from the experience of the two phases of the World Summit;

54. *Notes* the role of the Commission, set forth in Council resolution 2006/46, in assisting the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit;

55. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report on the stocktaking of activities related to the World Summit, which serves as one of the valuable tools for assisting with the follow-up, beyond the conclusion of the Tunis phase of the World Summit;

56. *Reiterates* the importance of sharing best practices at the global level, and, while recognizing excellence in the implementation of the projects and initiatives that further the goals of the World Summit, encourages all stakeholders to nominate their projects for the annual World Summit project prizes as an integral part of the World Summit stocktaking process, while taking note of the report on the World Summit success stories;

57. *Recalls* paragraph 57 of Council resolution 2014/27, in which the Council requested the Commission to invite further inputs from Member States and all facilitators and stakeholders and to organize, during its eighteenth session, in 2015, a substantive discussion on the 10-year review report on the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, and to report thereon, through the Council, to the General Assembly as it makes an overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit in 2015;

58. *Recalls further* paragraph 48 of Council resolution 2013/9, in which the Council requested the Commission to submit, after its eighteenth session, the results of its 10-year review of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, through the Council, to the General Assembly as it makes an overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit in 2015;

59. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission at its eighteenth session,¹⁹² including a summary of the substantive discussion on the 10-year review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit alongside a link to the interventions made in that regard, and decides to forward it to the preparatory process of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly;

60. *Also takes note* of the report prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development entitled “Implementing World Summit on the Information Society Outcomes: A Ten-Year Review”, which was the basis for the substantive discussion, and decides to submit it also to the preparatory process of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly as an input for its deliberations;

61. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission, on a yearly basis, a report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution as well as in the other Council resolutions on the assessment of the quantitative and qualitative progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit;

62. *Emphasizes* the importance of promoting an inclusive information society, with particular attention to bridging the digital and broadband divide, taking into account considerations of gender and culture, as well as youth and other underrepresented groups;

63. *Also emphasizes* the importance of information and communications technologies for development, and considers that it should be reflected as appropriate in the post-2015 development agenda.

*54th plenary meeting
22 July 2015*

2015/27. Science, technology and innovation for development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as the United Nations torch-bearer for science, technology and innovation for development,

Recognizing also the critical role and contribution of science, technology and innovation in building and maintaining national competitiveness in the global economy, addressing global challenges and realizing sustainable development,

Recognizing further the seminal role that information and communications technologies play in promoting and empowering science, technology and innovation for development,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,¹⁹³ in which it was recognized that science and technology, including information and communications technologies, are vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, and reaffirming the commitments contained therein,

Recalling also that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is the secretariat of the Commission,

Recognizing that the General Assembly, in its resolution [68/220](#) of 20 December 2013 on science, technology and innovation for development, encouraged the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to undertake science, technology and innovation policy reviews, with a view to assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in identifying the measures that are needed to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into their national development strategies,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2011/235 of 26 July 2011 providing for the extension, until 2015, of the mandate of the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission, as well as General Assembly resolutions [66/129](#) of 19 December 2011 and [66/211](#) and [66/216](#) of 22 December 2011 addressing, respectively, the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, barriers to equal access for women and girls to science and technology, and the integration of a gender perspective into development policies and programmes,

¹⁹² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 11 (E/2015/31).*

¹⁹³ General Assembly resolution [60/1](#).

Recognizing the instrumental role of science, technology and innovation in the achievement of a number of Millennium Development Goals, and highlighting the role of science, technology and innovation as an enabler of the post-2015 development agenda to continue to address global challenges,

Taking note of the report of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals¹⁹⁴ and the implications of the same for the global science, technology and innovation community,

Taking note also of the synthesis report of the Secretary-General on the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, entitled “The road to dignity by 2030: ending poverty, transforming all lives and protecting the planet”,¹⁹⁵ which identifies technology, science and innovation as means to implement the sustainable development agenda,

Welcoming the work of the Commission on its two current priority themes, “Strategic foresight for the post-2015 development agenda” and “Digital development”,

Noting the need for new approaches that embed science, technology and innovation policies and capacity-building as crucial components of national development plans, inter alia, through collaboration between sectoral ministries, science, technology and innovation and information and communications technology agencies and a range of regulatory bodies,

Recognizing that technology foresight exercises could help policymakers and stakeholders in the future implementation of the post-2015 development agenda through the identification of challenges and opportunities that can be addressed strategically, and that technology trends should be analysed, keeping in mind the wider socioeconomic context,

Recognizing also that a well-developed digital ecosystem¹⁹⁶ is a primary requirement for effective digital development and the facilitation of science, technology and innovation,

Recognizing further the increased regional integration efforts across the world and the associated regional dimension of science, technology and innovation issues,

Noting the significant achievements and continuing potential contribution of information and communications technologies to human welfare, economic prosperity and employment,

Noting also that the success of using technology and innovation policies at the national level is facilitated by, among other things, creating policy environments that enable education and research institutions, businesses and industry to innovate, invest and transform science, technology and innovation into employment and economic growth incorporating all interrelated elements, including knowledge transfer,

Recommends the following for consideration by national Governments, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:

(a) Governments, individually and collectively, are encouraged to take into account the findings of the Commission and to consider taking the following actions:

- (i) To closely link science, technology, innovation and strategies of sustainable development by prominently featuring capacity-building in information and communications technologies and science, technology and innovation in national development planning;
- (ii) To promote local innovation capabilities for inclusive and sustainable economic development by bringing together local scientific, vocational and engineering knowledge, including through collaboration with and among national programmes;
- (iii) To undertake systemic research, including foresight exercises, on new trends in science, technology and innovation and information and communications technologies and their impact on development, particularly in the context of the post-2015 development agenda;

¹⁹⁴ A/68/970 and Corr.1.

¹⁹⁵ A/69/700.

¹⁹⁶ The digital ecosystem involves components such as technological infrastructure, data infrastructure, financial infrastructure, institutional infrastructure and human infrastructure.

- (iv) To use strategic foresight exercises to identify potential gaps in education for the medium and long term and addressing such gaps with a policy mix, including the promotion of science, technology, engineering and mathematics education and vocational training;
 - (v) To use strategic foresight as a process to encourage structured debate among all stakeholders, including representatives of Government, science, industry and civil society and the private sector, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, towards creating a shared understanding of long-term issues and building consensus on future policies;
 - (vi) To undertake strategic foresight initiatives on global and regional challenges at regular intervals and cooperate towards the establishment of a mapping system to review and share technology foresight outcomes, including pilot projects, with other Member States, making use of existing regional mechanisms, and in collaboration with relevant stakeholders;
 - (vii) To conduct assessments of national innovation systems, including digital ecosystems, to identify weaknesses of the system and make effective policy interventions to strengthen its weaker components, while recognizing the interlinkages between its diverse components;
 - (viii) To mobilize resources through multiple channels to strengthen the national innovation system for science, technology and innovation;
 - (ix) To encourage digital natives to play a key role in a community-based approach to science, technology and innovation capacity-building, and facilitate the use of information and communications technologies in the context of the post-2015 development agenda;
 - (x) To put in place policies that support the development of digital ecosystems, that are inclusive and that encourage the development of local content and attract and support private investment, innovation and entrepreneurship;
 - (xi) To collaborate with all relevant stakeholders, promote the application of information and communications technologies in all sectors, improve environmental sustainability and encourage the creation of suitable facilities to recycle and dispose of e-waste;
 - (xii) To address the ongoing and persistent gender gap in the fields of science, technology and innovation as a whole, and science, technology, engineering and mathematics education in particular, by encouraging mentoring and supporting other efforts to attract and retain women and girls in those fields;
 - (xiii) To support the policies and activities of developing countries in the fields of science and technology through North-South and South-South cooperation by encouraging financial and technical assistance, capacity-building, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and conditions and technical training programmes or courses;
- (b) The Commission is encouraged:
- (i) To continue its role as a torch-bearer for science, technology and innovation and to provide high-level advice to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on relevant science, technology, engineering and innovation issues;
 - (ii) To help to articulate the important role of information and communications technologies and science, technology, innovation and engineering as enablers in the future post-2015 development agenda by acting as a forum for strategic planning and providing foresight about critical trends in science, technology and innovation in key sectors of the economy and drawing attention to emerging and disruptive technologies;
 - (iii) To raise awareness and facilitate networking and partnerships between various technology foresight organizations and networks, in collaboration with other stakeholders, with the objectives of improving international cooperation in emerging technology foresight tools and methodologies, sharing experiences and best practices and organizing training programmes and collaborative projects such as on the future of work, science, technology and innovation skills and the future employability of science, technology and innovation professionals;
 - (iv) To raise awareness among policymakers about the process of innovation and to identify particular opportunities for developing countries to benefit from such innovation, with special attention being placed on new trends in innovation that can offer novel possibilities for developing countries;

- (v) To proactively strengthen and revitalize global science, technology and innovation partnerships for sustainable development, which would entail the engagement of the Commission in (a) translating technology foresight into elaborating the scope of specific international projects for targeted research, technology development and deployment and initiatives for building human resource capacity for science, technology and innovation; and (b) exploring innovative financing models and other resources contributing to enhancing the capacities of developing countries in collaborative projects and initiatives in science, technology and innovation;
- (vi) To discuss and explore innovative financing models as a means to attract new sources of investment capital for science, technology, engineering and innovation-based solutions, in collaboration with other organizations, where appropriate;
- (vii) To promote capacity-building and cooperation in research and development;
- (viii) To provide a forum for sharing best practices, successful local innovation models, case studies and experience on the use of science, technology and engineering for innovation, including the application of new emerging technologies, in symbiotic relationship with information and communications technologies, for inclusive and sustainable development, and to share findings with all relevant United Nations entities;
- (ix) To play an active role in creating awareness of the potential contribution of science, technology and innovation to the post-2015 development agenda through substantive inputs, as appropriate, to relevant processes and bodies of the United Nations, and to share findings and good practices on science, technology and innovation among Member States and beyond;
- (x) To highlight the importance of the work of the Commission related to the implementation of and follow-up to the areas of information and communications technologies and science, technology and innovation related to the Millennium Development Goals, with the Chair of the Commission to report at appropriate reviews and meetings of the Economic and Social Council, taking into account that 2015 is a year of transition to the post-2015 development agenda;
- (c) The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is encouraged:
 - (i) To seek funding proactively for the expansion of science, technology and innovation policy reviews, with an emphasis on the critical role of information and communications technologies in empowering science, technology and innovation and engineering capacity-building and utilization, and the implementation of the recommendations on those reviews, as appropriate, in close cooperation with United Nations agencies and international organizations;
 - (ii) To look into the feasibility of including elements of strategic foresight and digital ecosystem assessment in policy reviews of science, technology and innovation and information and communications technologies, possibly by including a chapter dedicated to these themes;
 - (iii) To plan for periodic updates on progress made in countries for which science, technology and innovation policy reviews have been performed and to invite those countries to report to the Commission on progress made, lessons learned and challenges encountered in implementing recommendations;
 - (iv) To encourage the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission to provide inputs to the policy deliberations and documentation of the Commission, to report on progress at the annual sessions of the Commission and to better integrate gender perspectives into science, technology and innovation policy reviews.

*54th plenary meeting
22 July 2015*

2015/28. Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its fourteenth session

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2012/28 of 27 July 2012, 2013/23 of 24 July 2013, 2014/38 of 18 November 2014 and other related resolutions on public administration and development, in which it affirmed that service to citizens should be at the centre of transforming public administration and that the foundations of sustainable development at all levels include transparent, participatory and accountable governance and a professional, ethical, responsive and information and communications technology-enabled public administration,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution [50/225](#) of 19 April 1996, in which the Assembly recognized that effectiveness of government requires an efficient and effective public administration in all countries that is responsive to the needs of the people, promotes social justice, ensures universal access to quality services and productive assets and creates an enabling environment for sustainable people-centred development,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution [69/228](#) of 19 December 2014 on promoting and fostering the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions, in which the Assembly emphasized that efficient, accountable and transparent public administration has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,¹⁹⁷ and recognizing that effective governance at the local, subnational, national, regional and global levels representing the voices and interests of all is critical for advancing sustainable development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution [68/309](#) of 10 September 2014, in which the Assembly decided that the proposal of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals contained in its report¹⁹⁸ shall be the main basis for integrating sustainable development goals into the post-2015 development agenda, while recognizing that other inputs will also be considered, in the intergovernmental negotiation process at the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly,

Recalling further the report of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing,¹⁹⁹ which highlights, inter alia, the importance of ensuring transparency and accountability of financing at the national, regional and international levels,

Referring to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,²⁰⁰ which entered into force on 14 December 2005,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions [60/252](#) of 27 March 2006 and [69/204](#) of 19 December 2014, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the need to more effectively harness the potential of information and communications technology to promote the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, through sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing the work of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration in providing policy advice and programmatic guidance to the Council on issues related to governance and public administration, and the relevance of the work of the Committee to the acceleration of the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda,

Recognizing also the support being provided by the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Development Management to countries on public sector leadership, institutional and human resources capacity development, electronic and mobile government and citizen engagement in development management,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its fourteenth session,²⁰¹
2. *Notes* the work done by the Committee on building trust in government in pursuit of the sustainable development goals, in accordance with the theme of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council, on redefining relationships and responsibilities in support of participatory governance and responsive public service delivery, including through e-solutions, on strengthening innovation, prioritization, informed decision-making and integration of policy development processes, and on promoting accountable institutions, ethical leadership and integrity;
3. *Also notes* the critical significance of citizens’ confidence in effective and capable institutions and the means of implementation of the sustainable development goals as a core enabler of building trust in government,

¹⁹⁷ General Assembly resolution [66/288](#), annex.

¹⁹⁸ A/68/970 and Corr.1.

¹⁹⁹ A/69/315.

²⁰⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

²⁰¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 24 (E/2015/44)*.

and encourages Member States to make use of the transition period to address gaps in governance and implementation arrangements that contribute to such confidence;

4. *Underlines* that attaining the future sustainable development goals and related targets, in accordance with national and local contexts and priorities, will require clarifying roles and responsibilities of public sector entities, civil society and private sector actors in policy design and implementation, taking into account pre-existing power structures;

5. *Stresses* that the sustainable development goals are different from the Millennium Development Goals and need more citizen ownership, and encourages Governments to foster the participation of citizens in their implementation at all levels, in a trustful manner, in order to mobilize efforts and resources for achieving sustainable development;

6. *Reaffirms* that access to public service by citizens should be a central concern of public sector transformation in pursuit of the sustainable development goals, and encourages Member States to create pathways to citizen engagement with a view to designing policies and strategies in an inclusive manner, inter alia, by strengthening regulatory processes of public consultation with all stakeholders at all levels;

7. *Stresses* the need for capacity-building, within specific country contexts, to promote collaborative relationships among public and private sectors and civil society, monitor progress and strengthen accountability frameworks for achievement of the sustainable development goals;

8. *Encourages* Member States to continue to strengthen e-government and the use of mobile technology, open data and evidence-based decision-making with a view to promoting effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels;

9. *Stresses* that to ensure support for the sustainable development goals across Governments and among the general public, there is a need for articulation of universalized public values and solidarity, buttressing of cross-governmental political will and incentives for cooperation among all stakeholders;

10. *Acknowledges* that more informed decisions and better prioritization occur when citizens and non-State actors are engaged throughout the policy cycle, recognizing that universities and the private sector are important actors in public sector innovation, and encourages public authorities at all levels to engage universities and the private sector in research and experimentation in the development of new capabilities for policy integration;

11. *Recognizes* that policy integration, involving effective policy design and implementation, stakeholder engagement and coordination across government, calls for transformative leadership, creativity, critical thinking and analytical skills, supported by an enabling environment comprising, inter alia, lead agencies tasked with reducing fragmentation through a process of programme review, and behaviours that promote sharing of data, information, knowledge, ideas and resources;

12. *Underscores* that effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels depend on a culture of ethics and integrity in the public sector, and encourages educational institutions, including schools and institutes of public administration, to promote professionalism and ethics among future public servants;

13. *Recognizes* that national oversight institutions have an essential role to play in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda, inter alia, by promoting transparency and monitoring the disbursement and proper utilization of public resources at all levels;

14. *Encourages* Governments at all levels to strengthen public financial management by modernizing accounting standards and introducing more advanced systems of accounting;

15. *Notes* that promoting integrity and transparency and ending impunity are essential to the prevention of corruption by public officials, and encourages Member States to strengthen collaboration with civil society, the private sector and the media, as appropriate, in exposing and addressing illicit practices;

16. *Requests* the Committee, at its fifteenth session, to examine and make recommendations on the governance and institutional aspects of implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results, in accordance with the theme of the 2016 session of the Council;

17. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Committee to enhance its interaction and coordination with the Council and other subsidiary bodies of the Council with a view to addressing cross-cutting areas through the established working methods of the Council;

18. *Requests* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to continue:

(a) To address gaps in research, policy analysis, formulation and integration as an aspect of governance and public administration and continue to implement initiatives such as the United Nations E-Government Survey, the Global e-Government Forum, the United Nations Public Service Awards and Forum, the World Public Sector Report and updated guidance on civic engagement, inter alia, with a view to supporting monitoring and implementation of the future post-2015 development agenda;

(b) To increase the scope and depth of capacity-development activities, as appropriate, with the aim of better assisting countries, including post-conflict countries and countries engaged in democratic institution-building, according to their specific contexts and needs, in building effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels in pursuit of the sustainable development goals;

(c) To promote transformative government and innovation in public governance, including through information and communications technology and e-government, so as to advance sustainable development, through the transfer of knowledge on effective governance at the global, regional, national and local levels;

(d) To assist in the implementation and review of the governance-related aspects of the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,²⁰² and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005;²⁰³

(e) To facilitate, promote and coordinate the implementation of new and innovative activities and initiatives on effective governance and public administration in order to test, validate and scale up innovative methodologies and practices to advance sustainable development;

(f) To promote collaboration and coherence of its activities in governance and public administration with the activities of the relevant departments of the Secretariat and United Nations agencies, as appropriate.

*54th plenary meeting
22 July 2015*

2015/29. Admission of Norway to membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of resolution 692 (PLEN.30) concerning the admission of Norway to membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, adopted by the Committee of the Whole of the Commission at its thirtieth session, held in New York on 19 and 20 March 2015,

Approves the admission of Norway to membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

*54th plenary meeting
22 July 2015*

2015/30. Restructuring the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to be fit for the evolving post-2015 development agenda

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the adoption of resolution [71/1](#) by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-first session, held in Bangkok from 25 to 29 May 2015,

²⁰² See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

²⁰³ See A/60/687.

Endorses the restructuring of the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to be fit for the evolving post-2015 development agenda, as set out in resolution [71/1](#) and the annexes thereto, which are annexed to the present resolution.

*54th plenary meeting
22 July 2015*

Annex

Resolution [71/1](#)

Restructuring the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to be fit for the evolving post-2015 development agenda

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolutions [69/1](#) of 1 May 2013, in which it decided to conduct, at its seventy-first session, a review of the progress in implementation of that resolution, and [70/11](#) of 8 August 2014 on implementing the outcome of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development,

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,²⁰⁴ in particular paragraph 100, in which the Conference participants emphasized that regional and subregional organizations, including the United Nations regional commissions and their subregional offices, had a significant role to play in promoting a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in their respective regions,

Acknowledging recent international meetings and conferences that featured issues related to sustainable development and the role of regional organizations, and noting with appreciation the successful holding and outcome of the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015,²⁰⁵ and the adoption of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway in September 2014 by the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Apia,²⁰⁶

Bearing in mind the continuing discussions on the post-2015 development agenda taking place at the General Assembly, and recognizing the relevant meetings and conferences, including the high-level political forum on sustainable development, to be held in New York from 26 June to 8 July 2015, the third International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015, and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, to be held in New York from 25 to 27 September 2015 as a high-level plenary meeting at the seventieth session of the General Assembly,

Noting the Commission’s unique role as the most representative body in Asia and the Pacific and its comprehensive mandate as the main economic and social development centre of the United Nations development system in the region,

Recognizing the need for the Commission to adapt and respond to the evolving development challenges and opportunities within the Asia-Pacific region, and to be fit for purpose and in line with the evolving post-2015 development agenda,

Emphasizing, to that end, the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination, and the need to create synergies within the United Nations development system at the global, regional and country levels in the Asia-Pacific region through enhanced collaboration between the secretariat and the funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations development system, as well as the need to build new partnerships within that system in line with General Assembly resolution [67/226](#) of 21 December 2012 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

²⁰⁴ General Assembly resolution [66/288](#), annex.

²⁰⁵ General Assembly resolution [69/283](#), annexes I and II.

²⁰⁶ General Assembly resolution [69/15](#), annex.

Underlining that the effectiveness and efficiency of its conference structure benefit from engagement and communication between member States and the secretariat, as well as with major groups and other stakeholders, in accordance with its rules and procedures,

Commending the Executive Secretary on the initiatives taken to strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of the conference structure and to facilitate an effective process of consultation among members and associate members on a comprehensive and thorough review of the conference structure of the Commission,

Having considered the reports of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of resolution 69/1,²⁰⁷

1. *Decides* to revise its conference structure, with immediate effect, in the following manner:

(a) Establish a Committee on Energy as a part of its subsidiary structure, meeting biennially;

(b) Reconstitute the Committee on Information and Communications Technology as the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation, meeting biennially;

(c) Reconstitute the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Inclusive Development as the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development, meeting biennially;

2. *Also decides* that, as a result of the reforms enumerated in paragraph 1 above, beginning in 2016, the Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation, the Committee on Transport, the Committee on Social Development, the Committee on Statistics and the Committee on Environment and Development shall meet in the even years; and the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development, the Committee on Trade and Investment, the Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Committee on Energy shall meet in the odd years;

3. *Reaffirms* that the conference structure of the Commission shall conform to the pattern outlined in the annexes to the present resolution;

4. *Requests* the Governing Council of each regional institution, at its next session, to consider the statute of the said regional institution to incorporate the following changes and to submit the revised statutes for the endorsement of the Commission at its seventy-second session:

(a) Abolish the technical committees of the regional institutions that have them;

(b) Ensure that the members of the Governing Councils are represented by the relevant line ministries;

(c) Consider that the regional institutions will be primarily funded by extrabudgetary resources;

(d) Ensure that regional institutions develop their capacities to assist member States in an efficient and effective manner;

(e) Encourage all members and associate members of the Commission to make the necessary regular annual contributions, on a voluntary basis, which are essential to the operation of the regional institutions;

5. *Decides* to review the continued substantive relevance and financial viability of each regional institution every five years, with the start and timing of such reviews linked to the year of their establishment;

6. *Calls upon* all development partners, in particular the relevant organizations of the United Nations development system, to support the Commission in promoting sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region through all appropriate mechanisms, including active participation in Commission sessions and enhanced cooperation on projects and policies;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to undertake systematic monitoring and evaluation of the conference structure and its link to the programme priorities of the Commission;

8. *Decides* to conduct a review of the reforms initiated through the present resolution at its seventy-third session, and requests the Executive Secretary to submit a report, which will serve as a basis for that review, on the implementation of these reforms and include recommendations on further adjustments to the conference structure, if necessary.

²⁰⁷ E/ESCAP/71/33 and E/ESCAP/71/40.

Annex I to resolution 71/1

Conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

I. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

1. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific shall meet annually under an overarching theme selected by member States, with each session comprising a senior officials segment of three days followed by a ministerial segment of two days, for a total of five working days, to discuss and decide on important issues pertaining to inclusive and sustainable development in the region, decide on the recommendations of its subsidiary bodies and of the Executive Secretary, review and endorse the proposed strategic framework and programme of work and take any other decisions required in conformity with its terms of reference.
2. The session of the Special Body on Least Developed, Landlocked Developing and Pacific Island Developing Countries shall be held for a maximum of one day during the senior officials segment, with a status commensurate with the Committees of the Whole. A one-day preparatory meeting of the Special Body will be held prior to its regular session.
3. The Commission session may include a distinguished person's lecture; and high-level representatives of United Nations agencies may be invited to participate in panel discussions held during the session and corporate leaders and civil society organizations may be invited to participate in the session as appropriate, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission.
4. The Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission, which convenes prior to the Commission session, shall be reconstituted as the Working Group on Draft Resolutions during the senior officials segment and shall have a status commensurate with the Committees of the Whole.
5. The number of simultaneous meetings of the Committees of the Whole, including their commensurate bodies, held during the senior officials segment of the annual session of the Commission shall not exceed two.
6. Draft resolutions shall reflect the substantive deliberations of member States; furthermore, without prejudice to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, members of the Commission intending to submit draft resolutions to the Commission are strongly encouraged to submit them to the Executive Secretary at least one month prior to the commencement of the session of the Commission in order to allow sufficient time for review by members and associate members of the Commission, and the Commission shall not consider draft resolutions submitted within one week of the first day of the Commission session.
7. The report of the Commission will be composed of the decisions and resolutions of the Commission. The draft record of proceedings of the Commission, prepared by the secretariat, will be circulated among members and associate members for comment within 15 days of the conclusion of the session. Members and associate members will be requested to provide comments within 15 days of receiving the draft record of proceedings. The secretariat's final record of proceedings of the Commission session will be issued within two months of the conclusion of the session, taking into account the relevant comments of members and associate members.
8. The Commission shall serve as the regional platform for integrating the sectoral streams of the committees, with a view towards promoting sustainable development equitably through all of its three dimensions.

II. Subsidiary structure

9. The subsidiary structure of the Commission shall consist of the following nine committees:
 - (a) Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development;
 - (b) Committee on Trade and Investment;
 - (c) Committee on Transport;
 - (d) Committee on Environment and Development;

- (e) Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation;
- (f) Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction;
- (g) Committee on Social Development;
- (h) Committee on Statistics;
- (i) Committee on Energy.

10. The nine committees shall each meet biennially for a maximum duration of three days for each session, with joint plenary sessions between multiple committees to discuss cross-cutting issues, when possible and desirable.

11. The Commission may mandate a specific committee or multiple committees to meet in the gap year where a particular topic becomes an urgent issue for the region.

12. Within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall:

- (a) Review and analyse regional trends;
- (b) Identify, in consultation with member States, their priorities and emerging issues and consult on regional approaches, taking into consideration subregional aspects;
- (c) Promote regional dialogue, including subregional synergies, and an exchange of experiences on policies and programmes;
- (d) Consider common regional positions as inputs to global processes and promote regional follow-up to their outcomes;
- (e) Propose issues for consideration by the Commission as the basis for possible resolutions;
- (f) Monitor the implementation of Commission resolutions;
- (g) Promote a collaborative approach to addressing the development challenges of the region, where appropriate, between Governments and civil society, the private sector, as well as the United Nations and other international organizations at the regional and subregional levels.

13. Further, within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall provide the secretariat, including its regional institutions, with guidance in reviewing the proposed strategic framework and programme of work.

14. The following areas shall be mainstreamed into the work of all committees:

- (a) Implementation and monitoring the achievement of the relevant internationally agreed development goals;
- (b) Poverty reduction and balanced integration of the three pillars of sustainable development;
- (c) Gender equality;
- (d) The priority needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

15. Representatives of civil society and the private sector may, upon consultation with member States, be invited to join the committee sessions as appropriate, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission.

16. The specific issues to be addressed by each of the nine committees in carrying out the functions outlined above are listed in annex II.

III. Ad hoc ministerial conferences and other intergovernmental meetings

17. Subject to the approval of the Commission, ad hoc ministerial conferences and other intergovernmental meetings may be organized on specific and cross-sectoral issues.

18. No more than six such ministerial conferences or other intergovernmental meetings may be held during a calendar year, and the total number of days shall not exceed 20.

19. In those years when a ministerial conference or intergovernmental meeting is held covering issues normally discussed in a committee, the corresponding committee need not be convened.

IV. Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

20. The functions of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission shall be in accordance with the terms of reference contained in annex III.

21. The Advisory Committee may, if necessary, establish its own working groups on consideration of specific issues.

22. The Advisory Committee shall meet with sufficient frequency in both formal and informal meetings on topical subjects, especially prior to the Commission session. The number of formal meetings of the Advisory Committee per calendar year shall not be less than 6 or more than 12. Any additional meetings, formal or informal, will be held in consultation with the Advisory Committee and the Executive Secretary and may not require documentation by the secretariat, unless otherwise requested by the Advisory Committee.

23. Should the need arise to seek the views of United Nations entities or other intergovernmental organizations on subjects of interest to the Advisory Committee, members of the Advisory Committee can, if consensus has been reached, request the secretariat to invite representatives of particular United Nations entities or other intergovernmental organizations to attend a subsequent session of the Advisory Committee.

24. The Advisory Committee shall periodically review the work of subregional offices and regional institutions and actively follow up and report on the implementation of resolutions by member States. The secretariat shall facilitate the reporting on resolutions by preparing the requisite guidelines and templates.

V. Regional institutions under the auspices of the Commission

25. The following institutions under the auspices of the Commission shall continue to function as prescribed in their respective statutes and terms of reference:

- (a) Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology;
- (b) Centre for Alleviation of Poverty through Sustainable Agriculture;
- (c) Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific;
- (d) Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization;
- (e) Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development.

26. The Commission may constitute additional regional institutions that support the achievement of its strategic and programmatic objectives.

VI. General provisions

A. Rules of procedure

27. Unless otherwise specified by the Commission, the rules of procedure of the Commission, including those pertaining to the decision-making process, shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the committees.

B. Informal session

28. An informal session among the heads of delegations during the ministerial segment of each Commission session may be organized but shall not be institutionalized. The agenda for the informal session shall be decided by consensus and the annotated agenda shall reach members at least 30 days before the opening of the session to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the session. Simultaneous interpretation shall be provided.

Annex II to resolution 71/1

Issues to be addressed by committees subsidiary to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

The issues listed below are the primary issues to be addressed by each committee. The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific may adjust the list of issues for any committee at any time, as appropriate; the committees shall likewise retain the flexibility to address new or emerging issues brought to their attention by the secretariat, upon consultation with member States.

1. Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development:
 - (a) Experiences and practices in formulating and implementing macroeconomic policies to reduce poverty and inequalities, as well as to achieve sustainable and inclusive development;
 - (b) Regional economic development policies and options;
 - (c) Financing for development, including enhancing domestic fiscal resources; increasing social impact investment by the private sector; and accessing regional financing vehicles, arrangements and funds;
 - (d) Experiences and practices in developing regulations and institutions to deepen and strengthen the region's capital markets;
 - (e) Review of pro-poor economic growth policies, particularly in countries with special needs;
 - (f) Policy options and programmes for reducing rural poverty, including those with a gender dimension, through the development of sustainable agriculture.
2. Committee on Trade and Investment:
 - (a) Regional cooperative mechanisms and agreements in trade and investment, including the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement;
 - (b) Policy options on trade, investment and small- and medium-sized enterprise development;
 - (c) Policy options and frameworks on trade facilitation.
3. Committee on Transport:
 - (a) Transport policy options and programmes, including the evolving post-2015 development agenda, and regional agreements and mandates;
 - (b) The Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway and other initiatives, including inter-island shipping and maritime transport promoted by the Commission for planning and financing integrated intermodal transport and logistics systems;
 - (c) Measures to improve road safety and the efficiency of transport operations and logistics;
 - (d) Support for accession to and implementation of international transport agreements;
 - (e) Harmonization of transport standards and documents;
 - (f) Applications of new transport technologies, including intelligent transport systems;
 - (g) Private sector participation for financing and maintaining infrastructure, including through public-private partnerships.
4. Committee on Environment and Development:
 - (a) Policies and strategies for enhancing environmental sustainability of economic and social development, including climate change mitigation and adaptation;
 - (b) Policies and strategies for sustainable management of natural resources, including water;
 - (c) Policies and strategies for promoting inclusive and sustainable urban development.

5. Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation:
 - (a) Integration of information and communications technology-related issues in development policies, plans and programmes;
 - (b) Transfer and application of information and communications technology at the regional and subregional levels;
 - (c) Information and communications technology, including space applications, for disaster risk reduction;
 - (d) Development of human and institutional capacity in the use of information and communications technology and in the use of science and technology for innovation;
 - (e) Policy options and strategies for enhancing cooperation on the generation of and access to science, technology and innovation for sustainable development, including regional mechanisms for technology transfer;
 - (f) Mainstreaming of science, technology and innovation issues in development policies, strategies and plans.
6. Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction:
 - (a) Policy options and strategies on multi-hazard disaster risk reduction and mitigation;
 - (b) Regional cooperation mechanisms for disaster risk management, including space and other technical support systems;
 - (c) Multi-hazard assessment, preparedness, early warning and response to disaster risks.
7. Committee on Social Development:
 - (a) Review the regional implementation of the internationally agreed goals and commitments on social development;
 - (b) Assess population and development trends, including international migration and its impact on development;
 - (c) Address issues of inequality and promote the social inclusion of youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and other vulnerable social groups;
 - (d) Promote gender equality and women's empowerment;
 - (e) Strengthen social protection and health systems.
8. Committee on Statistics:
 - (a) Ensure that by 2020 all countries in the region have the capability to provide a basic range of population, economic, social and environmental statistics;
 - (b) Create a more adaptive and cost-effective information management environment for national statistical offices through stronger collaboration.
9. Committee on Energy:
 - (a) Assist in the development of strategies towards attaining internationally agreed development goals concerning energy;
 - (b) Promote policy dialogues and networking among member States to develop a regional cooperation framework to enhance energy security, with a view to promoting greater use of sustainable energy resources, including universal access to energy services, improving energy efficiency and scaling up the use of renewable energy, particularly through data and policy analysis, information exchanges and best practices;
 - (c) Identify policy options to strengthen intergovernmental frameworks to promote regional energy connectivity in order to develop a supportive mechanism for regional economic cooperation and integration;
 - (d) Support the implementation of the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum and other regional agreements and mandates, including the evolving post-2015 development agenda, promoted by the Commission for regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy;

(e) Identify policy options, strategies, policy dialogues and knowledge platforms to promote access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies;

(f) Identify policies and strategies to promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technologies.

Annex III to resolution 71/1

Terms of reference of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

The Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission shall have the following functions:

(a) To strengthen close cooperation and consultation between the member States and the secretariat, including by providing advice and guidance to be taken into account by the Executive Secretary while undertaking the respective activities;

(b) To serve as a deliberative forum for substantive exchange of views and provide guidance on the formulation of the agenda of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and in connection with economic and social developments that have an impact on the Asia-Pacific region;

(c) To advise and guide the Executive Secretary in drawing up proposals for the strategic framework, programme of work and theme topics for sessions of the Commission consistent with the guidance provided by the Commission;

(d) To receive, on a regular basis, information on the administrative and financial functioning of the Commission;

(e) To advise and guide the Executive Secretary in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the Commission's programme of work and resource allocation;

(f) To review the draft calendar of meetings prior to its submission to the Commission at its annual session;

(g) To advise and guide the Executive Secretary on the provisional agenda for sessions of the Commission and committees subsidiary to the Commission, consistent with the need to ensure a results-oriented and focused agenda that is aligned with the development priorities of member States, as defined by them, as well as chapter II of its rules of procedure;

(h) To advise and guide the Executive Secretary on the identification of emerging economic and social issues and other relevant issues for incorporation into the provisional agendas and on the formulation of the annotated provisional agendas for Commission sessions;

(i) To be informed of collaboration and related arrangements between the secretariat and other international and regional organizations, in particular on long-term cooperation programmes and joint initiatives, including those to be proposed by the Executive Secretary and conducted under the aegis of the Regional Coordination Mechanism;

(j) To carry out any other tasks entrusted to it by the Commission.

2015/31. Establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting the adoption of resolution 71/11 by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-first session, held in Bangkok from 25 to 29 May 2015,

Endorses the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management, as set out in resolution 71/11 and the annex thereto, which are annexed to the present resolution.

*54th plenary meeting
22 July 2015*

Annex

Resolution 71/11

Establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling its resolution 67/4 of 25 May 2011 and its decision taken therein to initiate the process for the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (the Centre) in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and in which it invited all members and associate members to participate actively in the process of developing the programmes of the Centre and to support the Centre's activities and requested the Executive Secretary to support the process for the establishment of the Centre and to include in the secretariat's evaluation plan an evaluation of the activities, the need for, and benefit of, establishing the Centre as a subsidiary body of the Commission for the development of disaster information management,

Recalling also its resolutions 69/12 of 1 May 2013 on enhancing regional cooperation for building resilience to disasters in Asia and the Pacific, 70/2 of 23 May 2014 on disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific and 70/13 of 8 August 2014 on regional cooperation for building resilience to disasters in Asia and the Pacific,

Remembering the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",²⁰⁸ in particular the outcomes related to disaster risk reduction and the role of the regional commissions in supporting member States and the development agenda,

Reaffirming the Yogyakarta Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2012 adopted at the Fifth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, from 22 to 25 October 2012, which called on disaster risk reduction stakeholders, among other things, to enhance and support regional cooperation mechanisms and centres on disaster information management,

Reiterating the importance of the Sixth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Bangkok from 22 to 26 June 2014, and reaffirming the Bangkok Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2014,²⁰⁹ which called on Governments and other stakeholders, including the United Nations system, to support the implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, in particular the Asia-Pacific regional post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction implementation plan and the priority actions stated in the Bangkok Declaration,

Bearing in mind the outcome document of the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015, and the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,²¹⁰ in particular its seventh global target, which states "substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to the people by 2030",

Recognizing the important contribution of disaster information management in disaster risk reduction and building resilience to disasters, as well as to inclusive and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific,

Emphasizing the significance of giving disaster risk reduction due consideration in the post-2015 development agenda, expected to be adopted at the United Nations summit in September 2015,

Recognizing the demand for disaster information services in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the request for promotion of regional cooperation mechanisms and knowledge-sharing arrangements to improve different aspects of disaster risk management, such as multi-hazard assessment, disaster preparedness and early warnings and responses to disasters,

²⁰⁸ General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

²⁰⁹ See A/CONF.224/PC(I)/11.

²¹⁰ General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.

Recognizing also the importance of institutional and technical capacity development in disaster information management in the countries and organizations of the region and in achieving the objectives and expected results of disaster risk reduction and management more effectively,

Expressing appreciation to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its generous offer to host the Centre and to bear its institutional, programmatic and operational costs for five years, up to 50 million United States dollars,

Recognizing that the main objective of the Centre would be to reduce the risks, losses and damages resulting from natural hazards by developing the capacities and capabilities of the countries and organizations of the region and strengthening regional cooperation on information-sharing and management of disaster risk reduction, and that the Centre would commence its functions and programmes with a focus on the more vulnerable subregions of Asia and the Pacific,

Taking note of the report on the evaluation pursuant to resolution 67/4 on the establishment of the Centre²¹¹ and the evaluation undertaken by an independent evaluation team,²¹² which concluded that there was a need to establish a regional centre to support vulnerable member States in bridging their disaster information management gaps and which recognized the significant steps made by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in laying the foundations for the Centre's operations,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations contained in the above-mentioned evaluation;^{211,212}

2. *Decides* to establish the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management as a regional institution of the Commission, which will contribute to the programme of work of the Commission in the area of information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction, while being funded through voluntary contributions from the host Government, including up to a limit of 50 million United States dollars during its first five years of operations;

3. *Adopts* the statute of the Centre, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, as the basis for its operations;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations and other international organizations and agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations in the relevant fields, to provide support to the Centre and cooperate in achieving its objectives and the implementation of its work programme;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To take all the necessary measures to ensure that the Centre is established promptly, including the conclusion of a headquarters agreement between the host country and the United Nations;

(b) To report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its seventy-second session;

6. *Decides* to assess the performance of the Centre, on the basis of the findings of an independent, comprehensive review at its seventy-sixth session, and to determine continuation of operations of the Centre as a regional institution of the Commission thereafter.

Annex to resolution 71/11

Statute of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management

Establishment

1. The Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (hereinafter "the Centre") is established on 29 May 2015 and accorded the legal status of a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (hereinafter "the Commission") pursuant to Commission resolution 71/11 of the same date under the terms of the present statute.

²¹¹ See E/ESCAP/71/34.

²¹² See E/ESCAP/71/INF/6.

2. Participation in capacity development activities of the Centre is open to all members and associate members of the Commission.
3. The Centre has the status of a subsidiary body of the Commission.

Objectives

4. To reduce human losses and material damages and the negative impact of natural hazards through enhancement of disaster information management in the Asia-Pacific region.
5. To strengthen the capabilities and capacities of countries and regional organizations in the fields of disaster information management and disaster risk reduction and implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030²¹³ and the evolving post-2015 development agenda.
6. To contribute to the enhancement of regional cooperation and coordination among countries and organizations in the region in the field of disaster information management aiming at socioeconomic development of nations and achieving internationally agreed development goals, particularly those related to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the evolving post-2015 development agenda.

Functions

7. To provide disaster information management services to member States and national and regional institutions in the fields of disaster prevention and risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery with a focus on disaster monitoring and early warning.
8. To provide technical and advisory support and services on disaster information policies, strategies and systems to member States and organizations in the region.
9. To facilitate access to regional and global disaster information and data sources through the creation of appropriate standards, frameworks and mechanisms and development of regional programmes, such as the establishment of a regional disaster database.
10. To develop the capacities of developing countries and regional organizations to transform the regional and global disaster data and information to applicable outcomes and products at the national and local levels by strengthening and mobilizing the required resources and benefiting from all available possibilities and initiatives, such as public-private partnerships.
11. To create and promote complementary cooperation among subregional disaster management centres and mechanisms in the Asia-Pacific region to exchange disaster data, information and knowledge by filling the existing gaps and by creating appropriate regional cooperation frameworks and protocols, such as the establishment of a regional disaster information management network with a focus on multi-hazard disaster monitoring and early warning.
12. To develop disaster information management tools and mechanisms, such as publications and virtual networks.
13. To act as a regional platform for disaster information for exchange of expertise, experiences and knowledge and to provide technical services and support to member States and disaster management institutions in the various fields of disaster management and risk reduction by benefiting from other available programmes and initiatives, such as North-South and South-South cooperation, and other regional organizations and Commission institutions.
14. To facilitate or conduct surveys and research and to provide specialized training services on new tools, techniques and standards to improve disaster information management and to fill the existing gaps in disaster information supply chains at the national and regional levels.
15. To facilitate or conduct specialized surveys on the assessment of needs and capacities, challenges and opportunities in the area of disaster information management to support disaster management policymakers and managers at the national and regional levels when and where required.

²¹³ General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.

16. To facilitate or conduct specialized studies and provide scientific and applied services in the development of disaster risk reduction measures and programmes and implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the evolving post-2015 development agenda.

Products and services

17. Capacity development in disaster information management: training and technical support.
18. Information support and analytical works on hazard, vulnerability, exposure and risk assessment at the regional and subregional levels.
19. Communications and publications:
- Development of and support to regional and subregional disaster information networks
 - Supporting local and national capacity development initiatives and programmes in disaster information management
 - Providing information services for disaster risk management priorities

Scope

20. The Centre is to commence its activities with a focus on the more vulnerable subregions of Asia and the Pacific, including South-East Asia, South and South-West Asia as well as North and Central Asia, in the first phase of its operations owing to the priority of these subregions in disaster risk reduction and management cooperation, and may eventually cover all the Asia-Pacific region.
21. The Centre is to apply a multi-hazard approach in its planning and activities with a focus on earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, cyclones/typhoons and drought as the main hazards of the region.
22. The Centre is to include all phases and sectors of disaster management and risk reduction before, during and after the occurrence of disasters.
23. The focus of the programmes and activities of the Centre is:
- (a) To provide capacity development in the area of disaster information management;
 - (b) To provide technical assistance and supplementary information services during major disasters that require regional and international assistance through promotion of complementary cooperation with other relevant organizations and institutions.

Status and organization

24. The Centre shall have a Governing Council (hereinafter “the Council”), a Director and staff. The Commission shall keep separate accounts for the Centre.
25. The Centre is located in Tehran, in the Islamic Republic of Iran.
26. The activities of the Centre shall be in line with relevant policy decisions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission. The Centre shall be subject to the financial and staff regulations and rules of the United Nations and the applicable administrative instructions.

Governing Council

27. The Centre shall have a Governing Council consisting of a representative designated by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and eight representatives nominated by other members and associate members of the Commission. The members and associate members to be elected by the Commission shall be elected for a period of three years but shall be eligible for re-election. The Executive Secretary of the Commission or his or her representative shall attend meetings of the Council.
28. The Director of the Centre shall serve as Secretary of the Council.

29. Representatives of (a) States that are not members of the Council; (b) United Nations bodies and specialized and related agencies; and (c) such other organizations as the Council may deem appropriate, as well as experts in fields of interest to the Council, may be invited by the Executive Secretary to attend meetings of the Council.
30. The Council shall meet at least once a year and shall adopt its own rules of procedure. Sessions of the Council shall be convened by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, who may propose special sessions of the Council at his or her own initiative and shall convene special sessions at the request of a majority of Council members.
31. A quorum for meetings of the Council shall be a majority of its members.
32. The nine representatives constituting the Council, under paragraph 27 of the present statute, shall have one vote each. Decisions and recommendations of the Council shall be made by consensus or, when this is not possible, by a majority of the members present and voting.
33. The Council shall, at each regular session, elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson, who shall hold office until the next regular session of the Council. The Chairperson or, in his or her absence, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside at meetings of the Council. If the Chairperson is unable to serve for the full term for which he or she has been elected, the Vice-Chairperson shall act as Chairperson for the remainder of that term.
34. The Council shall review the administrative and financial status of the Centre and the implementation of its programme of work. The Executive Secretary of the Commission shall submit an annual report, as adopted by the Council, to the Commission at its annual sessions.
35. The Council shall review and endorse annual and long-term workplans consistent with the programme of work.

Director and staff

36. The Centre shall have a Director and staff, who shall be Commission staff members appointed under the appropriate United Nations regulations, rules and administrative instructions. The Council shall be invited to nominate candidates for the position of Director, once the vacancy is announced, and provide advice, as appropriate. Other members and associate members of the Commission may also submit nominations for the post. All appointments shall be for a fixed duration and shall be limited to service with the Centre.
37. The Director shall be responsible to the Executive Secretary of the Commission for the administration of the Centre, the preparation of annual and long-term workplans and the implementation of the programme of work.

Resources of the Centre

38. All members and associate members of the Commission should be encouraged to make a regular annual contribution to the operations of the Centre. The United Nations shall administer a joint contribution trust fund for the Centre, in which these contributions shall be deposited and utilized solely for the activities of the Centre, subject to paragraph 40 of the present statute.
39. United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other entities should also be encouraged to make voluntary contributions to the operations of the Centre. The United Nations shall maintain separate trust funds for voluntary contributions for technical cooperation projects or other extraordinary voluntary contributions for activities of the Centre.
40. The financial resources of the Centre shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.²¹⁴

Amendments

41. Amendments to the present statute shall be adopted by means of a resolution of the Commission.

²¹⁴ [ST/SGB/2013/4](#).

Matters not covered by the present statute

42. In the event of any procedural matter arising that is not covered by the present statute or rules of procedure adopted by the Council under paragraph 30 of the present statute, the pertinent part of the rules of procedure of the Commission shall apply.

Entry into force

43. The present statute shall enter into force on the date of its adoption by the Commission.

2015/32. Admission of Mauritania to membership in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of resolution 322 (S-V) adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia at its special session held in Amman on 8 June 2015,

Approves the admission of Mauritania to membership in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

*54th plenary meeting
22 July 2015*

2015/33. International arrangement on forests beyond 2015

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2000/35 of 18 October 2000, by which it established the international arrangement on forests,

Recalling also the principles set out in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,²¹⁵ and recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,²¹⁶

Recalling further its resolution 2006/49 of 28 July 2006 and United Nations Forum on Forests resolution [10/2](#) of 19 April 2013,²¹⁷ providing for the review in 2015 of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests, including its scope and its preparatory process,

Recognizing the achievements of the international arrangement on forests since its inception, in particular the adoption by the General Assembly of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests²¹⁸ adopted by the Forum, as well as the contributions of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, while stressing the continued challenges of and the need to strengthen the international arrangement on forests and to continue efforts to contribute to the promotion and implementation of sustainable forest management,

Acknowledging the progress made by countries and stakeholders towards sustainable forest management, including the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and the achievement of its global objectives on forests at the local, national, regional and international levels, taking into account different visions, approaches, models and tools to achieve sustainable development,

²¹⁵ *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.

²¹⁶ General Assembly resolution [66/288](#), annex.

²¹⁷ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 22* (E/2013/42), chap. I, sect. B.

²¹⁸ General Assembly resolution [62/98](#), annex.

Welcoming the significant forest-related developments in other forums, in particular in the context of the Rio conventions,²¹⁹ their continued contribution to sustainable forest management and the importance of cooperation and synergies between these forums and the international arrangement on forests,

Welcoming also the recognition given to forests and sustainable forest management by the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals in its proposed sustainable development goals and associated targets, and emphasizing the economic, social and environmental contributions of all types of forests to the achievement of the post-2015 development agenda,

Noting the contributions made by countries, organizations and other stakeholders to the review of the international arrangement on forests, including the views submitted by Member States of the Forum and major groups and the reports of the independent assessment of the international arrangement on forests, the Open-ended Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert Group on the International Arrangement on Forests and the initiatives hosted by China, Nepal and Switzerland,

Stressing the need to strengthen the capacity of the international arrangement on forests to foster coherence on forest-related policies, catalyse the implementation of and financing for sustainable forest management, and promote coordination and collaboration on forest issues at all levels, as well as coherence between the international arrangement on forests and the post-2015 development agenda,

I

International arrangement on forests beyond 2015

1. *Decides:*

(a) To strengthen the international arrangement on forests and extend it to 2030;

(b) That the international arrangement on forests is composed of the United Nations Forum on Forests and its Member States, the secretariat of the Forum, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network²²⁰ and the Trust Fund for the United Nations Forum on Forests;

(c) That the international arrangement on forests involves as partners interested international, regional and subregional organizations and processes, major groups and other stakeholders;

(d) That the objectives of the international arrangement on forests are:

(i) To promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, in particular the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests;²¹⁸

(ii) To enhance the contribution of all types of forests and trees outside forests to the post-2015 development agenda;

(iii) To enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels;

(iv) To foster international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as public-private partnerships and cross-sectoral cooperation at all levels;

(v) To support efforts to strengthen forest governance frameworks and means of implementation, in accordance with the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, in order to achieve sustainable forest management;

(e) To strengthen long-term political commitment to the achievement of the objectives listed in paragraph 1 (d) of the present resolution;

²¹⁹ Convention on Biological Diversity (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480) and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822).

²²⁰ See paragraph 13 (a) of the present resolution.

(f) That the international arrangement on forests beyond 2015 should operate in a transparent, effective, efficient and accountable manner and should provide added value and contribute to enhanced coherence, cooperation and synergies with respect to other forest-related agreements, processes and initiatives;

2. *Emphasizes* that the objectives of the international arrangement on forests beyond 2015 should be achieved through the actions, individually and collectively, of Member States, international, regional and subregional organizations and processes, major groups and other stakeholders;

II

United Nations Forum on Forests beyond 2015

3. *Decides* that the core functions of the Forum are:

(a) To provide a coherent, open, transparent and participatory global platform for policy development, dialogue, cooperation and coordination on issues related to all types of forests, including emerging issues, in an integrated and holistic manner, including through cross-sectoral approaches;

(b) To promote, monitor and assess the implementation of sustainable forest management, in particular the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and the achievement of its global objectives on forests, and mobilize, catalyse and facilitate access to financial, technical and scientific resources to this end;

(c) To promote governance frameworks and enabling conditions at all levels to achieve sustainable forest management;

(d) To promote coherent and collaborative international policy development on issues related to all types of forests;

(e) To strengthen high-level political engagement, with the participation of major groups and other stakeholders, in support of sustainable forest management;

4. *Reaffirms* that, as set out in paragraph 4 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35, the Forum is a subsidiary body of the Council with universal membership, which operates under the rules of procedure of the functional commissions and reports to the Council and, through the Council, to the General Assembly;

5. *Decides* that the Forum shall continue to operate according to the provisions specified in paragraphs 4 (a) to (e) of resolution 2000/35 unless otherwise provided in the present resolution;

6. *Also decides* to improve and strengthen the functioning of the Forum beyond 2015 by requesting the Forum:

(a) To carry out its core functions on the basis of a strategic plan for the period 2017–2030, as defined in section XI of the present resolution;

(b) To restructure its sessions and enhance its intersessional work to maximize the impact and relevance of its work, including by fostering an exchange of experiences and lessons learned among countries, regional, subregional and non-governmental partners and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;

(c) To hold annual sessions of the Forum for a period of five days;

(d) To convene high-level segments not to exceed two days during sessions of the Forum, as required, to accelerate action towards sustainable forest management and address forest-related global challenges and emerging issues; such segments may include a partnership forum involving the heads of member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and leaders from the private sector, philanthropic and civil society organizations and other major groups;

(e) To enhance the contributions to the work of the Forum by country-led and similar initiatives by ensuring that they directly support the priorities of the Forum as defined in its four-year work programmes and that their outcomes are considered by the Forum, and update the Forum guidelines in this regard;

(f) In line with paragraph 6 (b) of the present resolution, to dedicate the odd-year session of the Forum to discussions on implementation and technical advice for the purpose of focusing the attention of Member States on

the specific tasks listed below; the summaries of these discussions, including possible proposals, will be reported to the Forum at its subsequent sessions in the even years for further consideration and recommendations. The specific tasks are:

- (i) To assess the progress in, and make possible proposals on, the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the Forum, the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and the strategic plan;
- (ii) To assess the progress in, and make possible proposals on, enhancing policy coherence, dialogue and cooperation on forests, fostering synergies in global forest-related processes and strengthening the common international understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management as set out in the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests;
- (iii) To monitor and assess the work and the performance of the strengthened facilitative process;
- (iv) To review and advise on the availability of resources for sustainable forest management funding, including the strengthened facilitative process, and ensure that its operation is consistent with guidelines to be approved by the Forum;
- (v) To review and make possible proposals on the operation of the Forum Trust Fund;
- (g) In line with paragraph 6 (b) of the present resolution, to dedicate the odd-year sessions of the Forum:
 - (i) To serving as an opportunity for the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its member organizations, regional and subregional organizations and processes, major groups and other relevant stakeholders to provide technical advice and input to the Forum;
 - (ii) To facilitating the sharing of knowledge and best practices, including the science-policy interface;

III

Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests beyond 2015

7. *Reaffirms* the continued validity and value of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, including its global objectives on forests, and emphasizes the need to strengthen and catalyse its implementation at all levels, taking into account forest-related developments since 2007, including developments in the context of the Rio conventions;²¹⁹

8. *Decides* to extend the timeline of the global objectives on forests to 2030, in line with the post-2015 development agenda, and to rename the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests the “United Nations forest instrument”, recognizing that the voluntary, non-binding character of the forest instrument, as set out in principle 2 (a) of the instrument, remains unchanged;

9. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it adopt the modifications referred to in paragraph 8 of the present resolution during its seventieth session and not later than December 2015;

10. *Urges* Member States to utilize the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests as an integrated framework for national action and international cooperation for implementing sustainable forest management and forest-related aspects of the post-2015 development agenda;

IV

Catalysing financing for implementation

11. *Reiterates* that there is no single solution to address all of the needs in terms of forest financing and that a combination of actions is required at all levels, by all stakeholders and from all sources, public and private, domestic and international, bilateral and multilateral;

12. *Welcomes* the positive work carried out by the facilitative process to date, and recognizes that it has yet to fulfil its potential as set out in the resolutions contained in the reports of the Forum on the special session of its ninth session²²¹ and on its ninth session;²²²

²²¹ [E/2009/118](#), sect. I.B.

²²² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 22 (E/2011/42), chap. I, sect. B.*

13. *Decides*, in order to strengthen and make the facilitative process more effective:

(a) That the name of the facilitative process shall be changed to the “Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network”;

(b) To set clear priorities for the strengthened facilitative process in the strategic plan, as described in section XI of the present resolution;

(c) That it should promote the design of national forest financing strategies to mobilize resources for sustainable forest management, including existing national initiatives, within the framework of national forest programmes or their equivalent, to facilitate access to existing and emerging financing mechanisms, including the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund, consistent with their mandates, in order to implement sustainable forest management;

(d) That it should serve as a clearing house on existing, new and emerging financing opportunities and as a tool for sharing lessons learned from successful projects, building on the Collaborative Partnership on Forests online sourcebook for forest financing;

(e) That it should ensure that special consideration is given to the special needs and circumstances of Africa, the least developed countries, low-forest-cover countries, high-forest-cover countries, medium-forest-cover low-deforestation countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, in gaining access to funds;

(f) To enhance the capacity of the secretariat to effectively and efficiently manage the strengthened facilitative process;

(g) To strengthen collaboration with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests in implementing the activities of the strengthened facilitative process;

14. *Also decides*, with the aim of strengthening the facilitative process:

(a) To request the secretariat, in consultation with the members of the Forum and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, to make recommendations on ways to further increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the operation of the strengthened facilitative process and submit them for consideration by the Forum at its session in 2018;

(b) To welcome the report of the secretariat of the Global Environment Facility to the Forum on the mobilization of financial resources through the sustainable forest management/REDD-plus incentive programme under the fifth replenishment of the Facility, and invite the secretariat of the Facility to periodically provide information on the mobilization of financial resources and funds that are dedicated to sustainable forest management;

(c) To also welcome the decision taken by the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility at its session in May 2014 to include a sustainable forest management strategy in the sixth replenishment period of the Facility (2014–2018) to support the sustainable management of all types of forests;

(d) To encourage eligible Member States, taking into account the cross-sectoral nature of sustainable forest management, to make full use of the existing potential of the sustainable forest management strategy under the sixth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility to harness synergies across the focal areas of the Facility in order to further reinforce the importance of sustainable forest management for integrating environmental and development aspirations;

(e) To invite the Council of the Global Environment Facility to request the secretariat of the Facility to discuss with the secretariat of the Forum arrangements to facilitate collaboration between the Facility and the Forum to support eligible countries in gaining access to funding for sustainable forest management;

(f) To request the secretariat of the Forum to engage in discussions with the secretariat of the Global Environment Facility in order to facilitate collaboration between the Facility and the Forum to support eligible countries in gaining access to funding for sustainable forest management, and to report to the Forum on this issue;

15. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to consider:

(a) Options for establishing a new focal area on forests during the next replenishment of the Facility and continuing to seek to improve existing forest finance modalities;

(b) Designating among its staff a liaison to serve as a link between the Forum and the Facility, in order to facilitate access to funding for sustainable forest management;

V

Monitoring, assessment and reporting

16. *Decides:*

(a) To invite Member States to continue to monitor and assess progress towards implementing sustainable forest management, including the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and the global objectives on forests, and to submit on a voluntary basis national progress reports to the Forum;

(b) To note the ongoing efforts of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its members and other relevant entities and processes to work jointly to further streamline and harmonize reporting, reduce reporting burdens and synchronize data collection, taking into account the collaborative forest resources questionnaire developed as part of the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015, in order to foster synergy and coherence;

(c) To request the secretariat of the Forum, in consultation with Member States, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its members and other relevant entities and processes, as well as criteria and indicators processes, to propose for consideration by the Forum at its next session a cycle and a format for national reporting and the enhancement of voluntary monitoring, assessment and reporting under the international arrangement on forests as part of the strategic plan referred to in section XI of the present resolution, taking into account and utilizing existing data collection mechanisms;

(d) To request the secretariat of the Forum to continue to make the reports on its sessions, as well as other relevant inputs, available to relevant United Nations bodies and other international forest-related organizations, instruments and intergovernmental processes;

VI

Secretariat of the Forum

17. *Decides* that the secretariat of the Forum:

(a) Should continue:

(i) To service and support the Forum, its Bureau and related intersessional activities, including by organizing and supporting meetings, providing operational and logistical support and preparing documentation;

(ii) To administer the Forum Trust Fund consistent with guidance provided by the Forum, including regular and transparent reporting;

(iii) To manage the strengthened facilitative process;

(iv) To promote inter-agency collaboration, including by serving as a member of and providing secretariat services to the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;

(v) To provide, upon request, technical support to country-led initiatives and similar initiatives led by international, regional and subregional organizations and processes, and major groups in support of the priorities of the Forum;

(vi) To liaise with and facilitate the participation and involvement of countries, organizations, major groups and other stakeholders in activities of the Forum, including intersessional activities;

(b) Should perform the following additional functions:

(i) Service and support the working group of the Forum, including by organizing and supporting meetings, providing operational and logistical support and preparing documentation;

(ii) Manage the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network and implement its activities in collaboration with relevant members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;

(iii) Promote coherence, coordination and cooperation on forest-related issues, including by liaising with the secretariats of the Rio conventions;

(iv) Work within the United Nations system to support countries in aligning forests and the international arrangement on forests with their considerations on the post-2015 development agenda;

18. *Reaffirms* that the secretariat of the Forum continues to be located at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

19. *Recommends* to the General Assembly that it consider strengthening the secretariat of the Forum, taking into account the provisions of the present resolution;

VII

Collaborative Partnership on Forests

20. *Decides* that the core functions of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are:

(a) To support the work of the Forum and its member countries;

(b) To provide scientific and technical advice to the Forum, including on emerging issues;

(c) To enhance coherence as well as policy and programme cooperation and coordination at all levels among its member organizations, including through joint programming and the submission of coordinated proposals to their respective governing bodies, consistent with their mandates;

(d) To promote the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, including the achievement of its global objectives on forests, and the contribution of forests to the post-2015 development agenda;

21. *Reaffirms* that the Collaborative Partnership on Forests should continue:

(a) To receive guidance from the Forum and submit coordinated inputs and progress reports to sessions of the Forum;

(b) To operate in an open, transparent and flexible manner;

(c) To undertake periodic reviews of its effectiveness;

22. *Encourages* the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its member organizations:

(a) To strengthen the Partnership by formalizing its working modalities, including through consideration of a multilateral memorandum of understanding, and by developing procedures for its effective functioning and operation;

(b) To identify ways to stimulate broader participation by existing member organizations in its various activities;

(c) To assess its membership and the potential added value of additional members with significant forest-related expertise;

(d) To identify ways to actively involve major groups and other stakeholders in activities of the Partnership;

(e) To develop a workplan, aligned with the strategic plan referred to in section XI of the present resolution, to identify priorities for collective actions by all of the members of the Partnership or subsets of members and the resource implications of such actions;

(f) To prepare periodic reports on the Partnership activities, achievements and resource allocations suitable for a wide range of audiences, including potential donors;

(g) To further develop and expand its thematic joint initiatives, taking into account the strengths and focuses of the members of the Partnership;

23. *Invites* the governing bodies of member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to include in their work programmes dedicated funding to support Partnership activities, as well as budgeted activities supporting the priorities of the Forum as outlined in the strategic plan referred to in section XI of the present resolution, consistent with their mandates;

Resolutions

24. *Calls upon* Member States, as well as other members of the governing bodies of member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, to support the work of the Partnership, including by considering dedicated funding for Partnership activities consistent with the respective mandates of Partnership members as an essential strategy for improving cooperation, synergies and coherence on forest issues at all levels;

VIII

Regional and subregional involvement

25. *Requests* the Forum to strengthen its collaboration with relevant regional and subregional forest-related mechanisms, institutions and instruments, organizations and processes in order to facilitate the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, including the achievement of its global objectives on forests, as well as to facilitate their inputs to sessions of the Forum;

26. *Requests* the secretariat of the Forum to consult with relevant regional and subregional forest-related mechanisms, institutions and instruments, organizations and processes on means to enhance collaboration between them and the Forum, including regarding the implementation of the strategic plan and the quadrennial programmes of work referred to in section XI of the present resolution;

27. *Invites* relevant regional and subregional mechanisms, institutions and instruments, organizations and processes in a position to do so to consider, consistent with their mandates, developing or strengthening programmes on sustainable forest management, including facilitating the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and relevant aspects of the post-2015 development agenda, as well as to provide coordinated inputs and recommendations to sessions of the Forum;

28. *Invites* Member States to consider, on a voluntary basis and as appropriate, establishing or strengthening regional and subregional processes or platforms for forest policy development, dialogue and coordination to promote sustainable forest management while seeking to avoid fragmentation;

IX

Involvement of major groups and other stakeholders

29. *Recognizes* the importance of the continued and enhanced participation of major groups and other stakeholders in the sessions of the Forum and its intersessional activities;

30. *Decides*, in this regard, that the provisions of paragraphs 14 to 16 of General Assembly resolution [67/290](#) of 9 July 2013 apply *mutatis mutandis* to the Forum in view of the existing modalities and practices of the Forum;

31. *Invites* major groups and other stakeholders to enhance their contributions to the work of the international arrangement on forests beyond 2015;

32. *Invites* Member States to consider enhancing the participation and contributions of representatives of major groups and other stakeholders in country-led initiatives;

33. *Requests* the secretariat of the Forum to promote the involvement of major groups and other stakeholders in the work of the Forum, in particular leaders from the private and non-governmental sectors, including forest industries, local communities and philanthropic organizations, and to enhance the interaction of the Forum with such stakeholders;

X

International arrangement on forests and the post-2015 development agenda

34. *Stresses* the need to ensure coherence and consistency between the international arrangement on forests and the post-2015 development agenda as well as with multilateral forest-related agreements;

35. *Decides* that the Forum should offer to contribute to the implementation, follow-up and review of the forest-related aspects of the post-2015 development agenda, including its forest-related goals and targets;

36. *Affirms* that the Forum should also offer to contribute to the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

37. *Invites* the Forum to consider, in the context of its strategic plan, its role in and contribution to the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda;

XI

Strategic plan

38. *Decides* that the Forum should develop a concise strategic plan for the period 2017–2030 to serve as a strategic framework to enhance the coherence of and guide and focus the work of the international arrangement on forests and its components;

39. *Also decides* that the strategic plan should be aligned with the objectives of the international arrangement on forests and should incorporate a mission and vision, the global objectives on forests and the forest-related aspects of the post-2015 development agenda, taking into account significant forest-related developments in other forums, as well as identify the roles of different actors and the framework for reviewing implementation, and outline a communication strategy to raise awareness of the work of the arrangement;

40. *Requests* the Forum to operationalize the strategic plan through quadrennial programmes of work that set out priority actions and resource needs, beginning with the period 2017–2020;

XII

Review of the international arrangement on forests

41. *Requests* the Forum to undertake in 2024 a midterm review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests in achieving its objectives, as well as a final review in 2030, and, on that basis, to submit recommendations to the Council relating to the future course of the arrangement;

42. *Decides* that, in the context of the midterm review in 2024, the Forum could consider:

(a) A full range of options, including a legally binding instrument on all types of forests, the strengthening of the current arrangement and the continuation of the current arrangement;

(b) A full range of financing options, inter alia, the establishment of a voluntary global forest fund, in order to mobilize resources from all sources in support of the sustainable management of all types of forests;

43. *Notes* that the establishment of a global forest fund could be further considered if there is a consensus to do so at a session of the Forum prior to 2024;

XIII

Follow-up to the eleventh session of the Forum

44. *Decides* that the Forum should consider proposals on the following matters:

(a) Replacement of the reference to the Millennium Development Goals in paragraph 1 (b) of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests with an appropriate reference to the sustainable development goals and targets that will be considered by the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, to be held in September 2015;

(b) The strategic plan for the period 2017–2030 and the quadrennial programme of work for the period 2017–2020, consistent with section XI of the present resolution;

45. *Invites* Member States and relevant stakeholders to provide their views and proposals on the matters referred to in paragraph 44 of the present resolution as inputs to deliberations;

46. *Decides* to establish a working group of the Forum with a time-bound mandate, for a period of up to two years in 2016 and 2017, to develop proposals on the matters referred to in paragraph 44 of the present resolution for consideration by the Forum at its special session referred to in paragraph 50 of the present resolution. The working group should:

(a) Operate in accordance with the working modalities of the Forum, as referred to in paragraph 4 of the present resolution;

(b) Elect two Co-Chairs who serve as ex officio members of the Bureau for the special session of the Forum referred in paragraph 50 of the present resolution;

47. *Also decides* that the working group of the Forum shall be convened in one session by 30 March 2017 for up to a total of five working days to develop the proposals referred to in paragraph 44 of the present resolution;

48. *Further decides* to establish an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc expert group to conduct up to two meetings in 2016, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to develop proposals on the matters referred to above for consideration by the working group;

49. *Requests* the Co-Chairs of the working group, under the guidance of the Bureau of the special session of the Forum, to also conduct informal consultations as needed, to facilitate a successful outcome for the working group;

50. *Decides* to hold a special session in a half-day meeting immediately upon the adjournment of the session of the working group, to consider the proposals of the working group consistent with paragraph 44 of the present resolution;

51. *Requests* the Forum to hold its next session in 2017;

XIV

Resources for the implementation of the present resolution

52. *Recognizes* that the responsibilities of the secretariat of the Forum have changed considerably in their scope and complexity over the years, including in relation to servicing Forum processes and providing substantive and technical support to developing countries;

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide, in the most efficient and cost-effective manner, all appropriate support to the secretariat of the Forum;

54. *Urges* donor Governments and organizations, including financial institutions, and others in a position to do so, to provide voluntary contributions to the Forum Trust Fund;

55. *Calls upon* donor countries and international organizations, including financial institutions, and others in a position to do so, to provide financial support to the Forum Trust Fund in order to support the participation of developing countries, according priority to least developed countries, African States, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition, in accordance with paragraph 40 of the resolution contained in the report of the Forum on its ninth session,²²² in the open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc expert group, the working group of the Forum and the sessions of the Forum;

56. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Forum at its session in 2018 on the implementation of the present resolution.

*55th plenary meeting
22 July 2015*

2015/34. Human settlements

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions and decisions on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,²²³

Recalling also relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012, entitled “The future we want”, and 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013 and 69/226 of 19 December 2014, entitled “Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)”;

²²³ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996 (A/CONF.165/14), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.*

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda;²²⁴
2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme on its twenty-fifth session²²⁵ and the resolutions contained therein;
3. *Encourages* Member States and observers to continue to give appropriate consideration to the role of urbanization in sustainable development and to ensure policy coherence in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda, including by promoting the active participation of relevant stakeholders, including local authorities;
4. *Invites* Member States and observers to adopt approaches that encourage participation of relevant stakeholders, civil society and levels of subnational government, as appropriate, in order to foster discussions on economic, social and environmental sustainability;
5. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring consistency and coherence in the deliberations of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council on agenda items related to the work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), as well as with the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and across the current consultations on major global issues, where appropriate, in order to promote coordination to minimize duplication of effort;
6. *Decides* to transmit to the General Assembly for consideration at its seventieth session the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda;
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council for consideration at its substantive session of 2016 a report on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda.

*55th plenary meeting
22 July 2015*

2015/35. Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration²²⁶ and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,²²⁷ adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution [65/280](#) of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Istanbul Programme of Action of overcoming the structural challenges faced by the least developed countries in order to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals and enable graduation from the least developed country category,

Recalling its resolution 2014/29 of 25 July 2014 on the Istanbul Programme of Action,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution [69/231](#) of 19 December 2014,

Noting the theme of the 2015 annual ministerial review, “Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take”, and the theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, “Strengthening integration, implementation and review: the high-level political forum on sustainable development after 2015”,

²²⁴ E/2015/72.

²²⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/70/8).*

²²⁶ *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7), chap. I.*

²²⁷ *Ibid.*, chap. II.

Noting also the holding of the ministerial meeting of Asia-Pacific least developed countries on graduation and the post-2015 development agenda in Kathmandu from 16 to 18 December 2014 and the ministerial meeting of African least developed countries on structural transformation, graduation and the post-2015 development agenda in Milan, Italy, from 8 to 10 June 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,²²⁸

2. *Recognizes* that the least developed countries have made some progress on many of the goals and targets in the Istanbul Programme of Action,²²⁷ leading to structural change in a few of them, expresses its concern that most least developed countries continue to face pervasive poverty, serious structural impediments to growth, low levels of human development, inequality and high exposure to shocks and disasters, and also expresses its concern that the challenges presented by the global economic environment are putting at risk the hard-won gains achieved so far and the ability to expand those gains to all least developed countries;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made by many least developed countries in implementing the Istanbul Programme of Action, including by mainstreaming it into relevant planning documents and development strategies, calls upon the least developed countries, with the support of their development partners, to fulfil their commitments and to promote implementation of the Programme of Action, including by integrating its provisions into their national policies and development frameworks and conducting regular reviews with the full involvement of all key stakeholders, and in this regard invites the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, including United Nations regional and functional commissions, the United Nations resident coordinator system and the United Nations country teams to actively support the integration and implementation of the Programme of Action;

4. *Also welcomes* the progress in, and stresses the importance of, mainstreaming the Istanbul Programme of Action into the development cooperation frameworks of development partners, and calls upon the development partners to further integrate the Programme of Action into their respective national cooperation policy frameworks, programmes and activities, as appropriate, to ensure enhanced, predictable and targeted support to the least developed countries, as set out in the Programme of Action, and the delivery of their commitments, and to consider appropriate measures to overcome shortfalls or shortcomings, if any;

5. *Invites* all organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations and international financial institutions, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and regional financial institutions to contribute to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action, including by implementing enhanced substantive and technical assistance to the least developed countries in a timely manner, and to integrate the Programme of Action into their programmes of work, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates, and to participate fully in its review at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, and in this regard invites them to report on their contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action as part of their annual reporting to their respective governing bodies;

6. *Notes with great concern* the decline in the share of official development assistance to the least developed countries, welcomes the commitment to reverse this decline, reiterates that official development assistance continues to be the largest source of external financing for the development of the least developed countries globally and plays an important role in their development and that progress has been made during the past decade in increasing the flow of official development assistance to the least developed countries, underlines that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieving the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015, as well as the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries as agreed in the Istanbul Programme of Action, and urges official development assistance providers that have not yet done so to fulfil their respective commitments to the least developed countries;

7. *Recalls* the commitment, contained in the Istanbul Programme of Action, that donor countries should review their official development assistance commitments in 2015 and consider further enhancing the resources for

²²⁸ A/70/83-E/2015/75.

the least developed countries, and in this regard urges donor countries to give high priority to the least developed countries in terms of their allocation of official development assistance, taking into account their needs, complex challenges and resources gap;

8. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to further intensify their efforts to fully and effectively implement, in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner, the commitments that have been made in the Istanbul Programme of Action in its eight priority areas, namely, (a) productive capacity, (b) agriculture, food security and rural development, (c) trade, (d) commodities, (e) human and social development, (f) multiple crises and other emerging challenges, (g) mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity-building, and (h) good governance at all levels;

9. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, in cooperation with their development partners, to broaden their existing country review mechanisms, including those for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the implementation of poverty reduction strategy papers, common country assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, and the existing consultative mechanisms to cover the review of the Istanbul Programme of Action;

10. *Calls upon* the developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation within the framework of South-South cooperation, which is a complement to, but not a substitute for, North-South cooperation;

11. *Invites* the private sector, civil society and foundations to contribute to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in their respective areas of competence in line with the national priorities of the least developed countries;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to include the issues of concern to the least developed countries in all relevant reports in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, in order to support the implementation of the goals set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action;

13. *Underlines* the need to give particular attention to the issues and concerns of the least developed countries in all major United Nations conferences and processes;

14. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work undertaken thus far by the Secretary-General to constitute a high-level panel of experts to carry out a feasibility study for a technology bank and science, technology and innovation supporting mechanism dedicated to the least developed countries, and looks forward to the conclusion of the panel's work in line with General Assembly resolution [68/224](#) of 20 December 2013;

15. *Notes* the inclusion in its annual ministerial review, in 2015, of a review of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action;

16. *Notes with appreciation* that several least developed countries have expressed their intention to reach the status of graduation by 2020, invites them to start the preparations for their graduation and transition strategy, and requests all relevant entities of the United Nations system, in particular the Office of the High Representative, to extend the necessary support in this regard;

17. *Recalls* the decision of the General Assembly in paragraph 24 of its resolution [68/224](#) that the special needs and development priorities of the least developed countries, including the eight priority areas of the Istanbul Programme of Action, such as productive-capacity-building, including through rapid development of infrastructure and energy, should be given appropriate consideration in the processes devoted to the elaboration of the post 2015 development agenda;

18. *Welcomes* the decision of the General Assembly to hold the comprehensive high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action in Antalya, Turkey, for a period of three days in June 2016, notes the ongoing preparation for the review, including the regional review meetings held by the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in 2015, and looks forward to a successful outcome;

19. *Decides* to consider the issue of the comprehensive high-level midterm review as part of its coordination and management meetings in 2016;

Resolutions

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its substantive session of 2016, under the sub-item entitled “Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020” of the item entitled “Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits”, a progress report on the implementation of the Programme of Action.

*56th plenary meeting
23 July 2015*

Decisions

2015/200. Election of a Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council for 2015–2016

At its 7th plenary meeting, on 13 January 2015, the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013 and Council decision 2013/265 of 16 December 2013, elected by acclamation Mohamed Khaled KHIARI (Tunisia) as a Vice-President of the Council for a term of office beginning on the date of election and expiring when his successor was elected, which was expected to be at the beginning of the 2016 session of the Council starting in July 2015, on the understanding that he remained a representative of a member of the Council.

2015/201. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments to subsidiary and related bodies of the Economic and Social Council

A

At its 14th plenary meeting, on 4 March 2015, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections

ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION

The Council elected the following seven Member States to the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission in accordance with Council resolutions 2008/38 of 19 December 2008 and 2015/1 of 4 March 2015, for a two-year term beginning on 1 January 2015 and expiring on 31 December 2016, or until the expiration of their membership in the Economic and Social Council, whichever was earlier: BRAZIL, CROATIA, ITALY, NEPAL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SOUTH AFRICA and TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The Council elected GUATEMALA to the Executive Board of the World Food Programme for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2017 to complete the term of office of PANAMA, which had resigned its seat on the Executive Board.

B

At its 21st plenary meeting, on 8 April 2015, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections

STATISTICAL COMMISSION

The Council elected the following seven Member States to the Statistical Commission for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016: CUBA, KENYA, LATVIA, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, ROMANIA and TOGO.

The Council postponed the election of one member from Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected the following seven Member States to the Commission on Population and Development for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fiftieth session of the Commission, in 2016, and expiring at the close of its fifty-third session, in 2020: CHILE, MOROCCO, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, SUDAN, TURKMENISTAN and UGANDA.

The Council postponed the election of two members from Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fiftieth session of the Commission, in 2016, and expiring at the close of the its fifty-third session, in 2020.

The Council elected IRAQ to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Commission for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of its fiftieth session, in 2017, as well as JAMAICA to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Commission for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of its fifty-second session, in 2019.

The Council further postponed the election of one member from Asia-Pacific States and one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the forty-ninth session of the Commission, in 2016.

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected the following 10 Member States to the Commission for Social Development for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, in 2016, and expiring at the close of its fifty-eighth session, in 2020: BANGLADESH, EL SALVADOR, GHANA, JAPAN, PARAGUAY, PERU, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION and RWANDA.

The Council postponed the election of two members from African States and three members from Western European and other States for a term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, in 2016, and expiring at the close of its fifty-eighth session, in 2020.

The Council elected AUSTRIA to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Commission for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of its fifty-seventh session, in 2019.

The Council further postponed the election of five members for a term beginning on the date of election: four from Western European and other States, one for a term expiring at the close of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, in 2016, one for a term expiring at the close of its fifty-fifth session, in 2017, and two for a term expiring at the close of its fifty-seventh session, in 2019; and one from Eastern European States for a term expiring at the close of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission, in 2019.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The Council elected the following 10 Member States to the Commission on the Status of Women for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the sixty-first session of the Commission, in 2016, and expiring at the close of its sixty-fourth session, in 2020: BRAZIL, ERITREA, GUATEMALA, KUWAIT, NIGERIA, NORWAY, QATAR, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO and UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

The Council elected the following 31 Member States to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016: ARGENTINA, AUSTRIA, BELARUS, CAMEROON, CHINA, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, ECUADOR, EL SALVADOR, GERMANY, GUATEMALA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), ISRAEL, ITALY, JAPAN, KENYA, MAURITANIA, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, PERU, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SUDAN, THAILAND, TURKEY, UGANDA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and URUGUAY.

The Council postponed the election of two members from Eastern European States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Council elected the following 20 Member States to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018: AUSTRIA, BELARUS, BENIN, BRAZIL, CAMEROON, CHILE, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, CUBA, FRANCE, GUATEMALA, INDIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), MEXICO, PAKISTAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SAUDI ARABIA, SERBIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SWEDEN and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

The Council elected the following five Member States to the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018: BENIN, BRAZIL, CAMEROON, KENYA and UGANDA.

The Council postponed the election of four members from Asia-Pacific States, two members from Eastern European States and two members from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

The Council took note of the 24 outstanding vacancies on the Working Group for a term beginning on the date of election: four from Asia-Pacific States, two from Eastern European States and two from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term expiring on 31 December 2015; and four from African States, one from Asia-Pacific States, three from Latin American and Caribbean States and eight from Western European and other States for a term expiring on 31 December 2017.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

The Council elected the following 14 Member States to the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018: AUSTRALIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, BOTSWANA, CAMEROON, DENMARK, EL SALVADOR, ETHIOPIA, INDIA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), LIBYA, NEPAL, SIERRA LEONE, SWEDEN and SWITZERLAND.

The Council also elected the following Member States for a term beginning on 1 January 2016 to replace members of the Executive Board who were resigning from their seats effective 31 December 2015: ANDORRA to complete the term of office of GERMANY (expiring on 31 December 2016); LUXEMBOURG to complete the term of office of NORWAY (expiring on 31 December 2017); and UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND to complete the term of office of SPAIN (expiring on 31 December 2016).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

The Council elected ARMENIA, CHAD, GEORGIA and URUGUAY to fill the four new seats on the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [69/153](#) of 18 December 2014.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME/UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND/UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR PROJECT SERVICES

The Council elected the following 14 Member States to the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018: AUSTRIA, BELARUS, BENIN, CAMEROON, CHAD, FRANCE, HAITI, JAPAN, LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, MALAWI, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SAMOA, SPAIN and UGANDA.

The Council also elected the following Member States for a term beginning on 1 January 2016 to replace members of the Executive Board who were resigning from their seats effective 31 December 2015: BELGIUM to complete the term of office of AUSTRALIA (expiring on 31 December 2017); CANADA to complete the term of office of DENMARK (expiring on 31 December 2017); SWITZERLAND to complete the term of office of ITALY (expiring on 31 December 2016); and TURKEY to complete the term of office of the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (expiring on 31 December 2017).

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The Council elected the following five Member States to the Executive Board of the World Food Programme for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018: FRANCE, INDIA, LIBERIA, NETHERLANDS and RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

The Council postponed the election of one member from States included in List B¹ set out in the Basic Texts of the World Food Programme for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

The Council elected CHINA to complete the term of office of the REPUBLIC OF KOREA, beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2017.

¹ Reproduced in [E/2015/9/Add.8](#).

Decisions

INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD

The Council elected Richard Phillip MATTICK (Australia) to the International Narcotics Control Board from among candidates nominated by the World Health Organization, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 1 March 2017, to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Wayne HALL (Australia).

COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION AWARD

The Council elected BANGLADESH and IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) to the Committee for the United Nations Population Award for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

The Council postponed the election for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 of three members from African States, one member from Eastern European States, three members from Latin American and Caribbean States and one member from Western European and other States.

PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD OF THE JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS

The Council elected the following six Member States to the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018: CHINA, ECUADOR, GHANA, JAPAN, MALAWI and RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

The Council postponed the election of three members from Western European and other States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME

The Council elected the following 14 Member States to the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2019: ANGOLA, BAHRAIN, BRAZIL, CHAD, CHILE, GEORGIA, GERMANY, INDIA, KENYA, MEXICO, NIGERIA, SERBIA, SWEDEN and TURKMENISTAN.

The Council postponed the election for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 of one member from African States, two members from Asia-Pacific States and two members from Western European and other States.

The Council elected GEORGIA and SERBIA to fill outstanding vacancies on the Governing Council for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2015.

The Council further postponed the election for a term beginning on the date of election of five members from Western European and other States: one for a term expiring on 31 December 2015, two for a term expiring on 31 December 2016 and two for a term expiring on 31 December 2018.

Nominations

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION

The Council nominated the following six Member States for election by the General Assembly to the Committee for Programme and Coordination for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018: ARGENTINA, FRANCE, PERU, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA and ZIMBABWE.

The Council postponed the nomination of one member from Western European and other States for election by the General Assembly for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016.

The Council nominated PORTUGAL for election by the General Assembly to fill an outstanding vacancy in the Committee for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2017.

The Council further postponed the nomination of four members for a term beginning on the date of election by the General Assembly: three from Western European and other States, one for a term expiring on 31 December 2015 and two for a term expiring on 31 December 2017; and one from Asia-Pacific States for a term expiring on 31 December 2017.

Appointments

COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY

The Council appointed the following 24 experts to the Committee for Development Policy for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018: José Antonio ALONSO (Spain), Giovanni Andrea CORNIA (Italy), Le Dang DOANH (Viet Nam), Diane ELSON (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Marc FLEURBAEY (France), Sakiko FUKUDA-PARR (Japan), Ann HARRISON (United States of America), Rashid HASSAN (Sudan), Stephan KLASSEN (Germany), Keun LEE (Republic of Korea), LU Aiguo (China), Vitalii MELIANTSEV (Russian Federation), Adil NAJAM (Pakistan), Leonce NDIKUMANA (Burundi), Keith NURSE (Trinidad and Tobago), José Antonio OCAMPO GAVIRIA (Colombia), Tea PETRIN (Slovenia), Pilar ROMAGUERA (Chile), Onalenna SELOLWANE (Botswana), Claudia SHEINBAUM PARDO (Mexico), Lindiwe Majele SIBANDA (Zimbabwe), Zenebework TADESSE (Ethiopia), Dzodzi TSIKATA (Ghana) and Juree VICHIT-VADAKAN (Thailand).

Elections postponed from previous sessions

PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

The Council further postponed the election of one member to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues from Asia-Pacific States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2016.

C

At its 24th plenary meeting, on 10 April 2015, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

The Council elected the following 17 Member States to the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2016: ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, COMOROS, CROATIA, GABON, GERMANY, GUYANA, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), LIBERIA, LUXEMBOURG, NAMIBIA, PAKISTAN, PANAMA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SAMOA, TUNISIA, TURKMENISTAN and UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.

The Council also elected the following Member States for a term beginning on 1 January 2016 to replace members of the Executive Board who were resigning from their seats effective 31 December 2015, in accordance with Council resolution 2010/35 of 25 October 2010: CANADA, to complete the term of office of PORTUGAL (expiring on 31 December 2016); DENMARK, to complete the term of office of ISRAEL (expiring on 31 December 2016); and SPAIN, to complete the term of office of ITALY (expiring on 31 December 2016).

The Council further elected the following Member States for a term beginning on 1 January 2016 to replace members of the Executive Board who were resigning from their seats effective 31 December 2015, in accordance with paragraph 61 (a) of General Assembly resolution [64/289](#) of 2 July 2010: NETHERLANDS to complete the term of office of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (expiring on 31 December 2016); NORWAY to complete the term of office of DENMARK (expiring on 31 December 2016); and SWEDEN to complete the term of office of SPAIN (expiring on 31 December 2016).

Elections postponed from previous sessions

GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME

The Council elected SWEDEN to the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to fill an outstanding vacancy for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2015.

The Council further postponed the election of four members from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election: two for a term expiring on 31 December 2016, and two for a term expiring on 31 December 2018.

D

At its 30th plenary meeting, on 15 May 2015, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections postponed from previous sessions

STATISTICAL COMMISSION

The Council elected the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Statistical Commission for a term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2019.

GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
PROGRAMME

The Council elected ISRAEL to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) for a term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2019.

The Council further postponed the election of four members from Western European and other States: two for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2016 and two for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2018; and one member from African States, two members from Asia-Pacific States and one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2019.

Nominations postponed from previous sessions

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION

The Council nominated the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND for election by the General Assembly to an outstanding vacancy in the Committee for Programme and Coordination for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2017.

The Council further postponed the nomination of one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election by the General Assembly and expiring on 31 December 2015; one member from Asia-Pacific States and one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election by the Assembly and expiring on 31 December 2017; and one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on 1 January 2016 and expiring on 31 December 2018.

2015/202. Provisional agenda for the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 21 July 2014, the Economic and Social Council adopted the provisional agenda for its 2015 session.²

2015/203. Themes for the 2015 and 2016 sessions of the Economic and Social Council

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 21 July 2014, the Economic and Social Council adopted the following themes for its 2015 and 2016 sessions:

(a) 2015 session (July 2014 to July 2015): “Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take”;

(b) 2016 session (July 2015 to July 2016): “Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results”.

² E/2015/1.

2015/204. Theme for the integration segment of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 21 July 2014, the Economic and Social Council decided that the theme for the integration segment of the 2015 session of the Council would be “Achieving sustainable development through employment creation and decent work for all”.

2015/205. Working arrangements for the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council

At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 22 July 2014, the Economic and Social Council decided on the following working arrangements for its 2015 session:

(a) The coordination and management meetings would be held on Monday, 17 November, and Tuesday, 18 November 2014; from Wednesday, 8 April, to Friday, 10 April 2015; from Monday, 8 June, to Wednesday, 10 June 2015; and from Monday, 20 July, to Wednesday, 22 July 2015;

(b) The meeting of the Council on access to credit-rating information would be held on Monday, 8 December 2014;³

(c) The youth forum would be held on Monday, 2 February, and Tuesday, 3 February 2015;

(d) The operational activities segment would be held from Monday, 23 February, to Wednesday, 25 February 2015;

(e) The integration segment would be held from Monday, 30 March, to Wednesday, 1 April 2015;

(f) The special high-level meeting of the Council with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development would be held on Monday, 20 April, and Tuesday, 21 April 2015;

(g) The one-day special meeting of the Council on international cooperation in tax matters would be held on Wednesday, 22 April 2015;

(h) The partnership forum would be held on Thursday, 28 May 2015;

(i) The humanitarian affairs segment would be held in Geneva from Wednesday, 17 June, to Friday, 19 June 2015;

(j) The high-level segment, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, and the annual ministerial review, would be held from Monday, 6 July, to Friday, 10 July 2015;

(k) The high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, would be held from Friday, 26 June, to Wednesday, 8 July 2015; the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum would be held from Monday, 6 July, to Wednesday, 8 July 2015;

(l) The organizational session regarding the programme of work of the Council from July 2015 to July 2016 would be held on Thursday, 23 July, and Friday, 24 July 2015.

2015/206. 2015 thematic discussion of the Economic and Social Council

At the 53rd plenary meeting of its 2014 session, on 18 November 2014,⁴ the Economic and Social Council decided that:

(a) The theme for the thematic discussion during its 2015 session would be “Strengthening and building institutions for policy integration in the post-2015 era”;

(b) The thematic discussion would take place during the high-level segment, to be held from 6 to 10 July 2015.

³ Pursuant to General Assembly resolution [68/202](#) of 20 December 2013.

⁴ In its decision 2015/205, the Council included the 17 and 18 November 2014 coordination and management meetings of the 2014 session as part of the working arrangements for its 2015 session in order to allow it to take action on matters that relate to its 2015 session (21 July 2014 to 23 July 2015).

2015/207. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

At its 22nd plenary meeting, on 8 April 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Decided to grant consultative status to the following 124 non-governmental organizations:

Special consultative status

Africa 21
African-British Returnees International
African Relief in Action
African Rights Initiative International
AGE Platform Europe
Aid for Trade Logistics
Al-Fidaa Foundation
Alliance for Nuclear Accountability
Arab Forum for Environment and Development
Asociación de Técnicos Superiores y Peritos Judiciales de Andalucía
Asociación para la Promoción de la Libertad y el Desarrollo Sostenible
Association “Paix” pour la lutte contre la contrainte et l’injustice
Association pour la défense des droits de développement durable et du bien-être familial
Association pour l’éducation, la santé et la promotion des femmes et des enfants au Cameroun
Beirut Institute
Boy with a Ball Ministries
Campaign for Human Rights and Development Sierra Leone
Canadian Pugwash Group
Canterbury Business Association
Center for Religion and Diplomacy
Centre d’encadrement et de développement des anciens combattants
Centre européen de recherche et de prospective politique
Centre for Community Regeneration and Development
China Society of Administrative Reform
Citizens United to Promote Peace and Democracy in Liberia
Comité Permanente por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos
Count of Monte Alea Foundation
Dacia Revival International Society
Deaf Aid
Development Action for Women Network
“Dialogue of Cultures – United World” International Public Charity Fund
Dóchas: The Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organizations
Equal Rights Trust
Ethiopian Social Assistance Committee
Europäischer Interessenverband Handel-Gewerbe-Industrie
European Health Psychology Society
Fonds Tara
Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention of the United States of America
Founders Development Organization Badin
Freedom from Hunger
Friendship Ambassadors Foundation
Fundación Centro Latinoamericano de Derechos Humanos
Fundación Crisálida
Fundación Luz María
Ganja Agribusiness Association
Global Forum on Human Settlements
Global Network for Rights and Development

Global New Car Assessment Programme
Good Helpers
Groupe d'action pour la promotion socioculturelle et l'alphabétisation: nouvelle énergie
Groupement romand d'études des addictions
Hazrat Javad-al-Aemeh Cultural Charity Institute
Health and Humanitarian Aid Foundation
Help4help
Horn of Africa Voluntary Youth Committee
Institute of Development Studies
International Brain Education Association Foundation
International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons
International Development Information Organization-DevNet
International Falcon Movement – Socialist Educational International
International Geothermal Association
International Higher Education Teaching and Learning Association
International Islamic Youth League
International Thai Foundation
International Volunteer Organization for Women, Education and Development
Islamic Chamber Research and Information Center
Islamic Research and Information Artistic and Cultural Institute
Kawish Resource Center
Kids Included Together
Kiyana Karaj Group
Korea Green Foundation
Korean Association for Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals
Korean Bar Association
League of Persons with Disabilities
Ligue marocaine de la citoyenneté et des droits de l'homme
Mayama
Metro Toronto Chinese and Southeast Asian Legal Clinic
Mongolian Family Welfare Association
Mouvement national des jeunes patriotes du Mali
NABU – Knowledge Transfer Beyond Boundaries
National Organization for Marriage Education Fund
National Shooting Sports Foundation
New Progressive Alliance
Nigerian Network of Women Exporters of Services
Non-profit Non-Governmental Expert Society on Space Threat Defense
Northern Citizen Community Board
Observatoire mauritanien des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie
Organization for Research and Community Development
Peivande Gole Narges Organization
Peramangk Heritage Association
Rare
Réseau des plateformes d'organisations non gouvernementales d'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre
Reyhaneh Nabi Art and Cultural Center
Roshd Foundation
Sahkar Social Welfare Association
Sam Kader Memorial Fund
Samdong International Association
Samoa Umbrella for Non-Governmental Organisations
Schools without Borders
Shia Rights Watch
Sindh Community Foundation
Skyian Welfare Organization

Society for Recovery Support
Society of Collective Interests Orientation
Solidarité Suisse-Guinée
Sonke Gender Justice Network
Support Humanity Organization
Trennungsväter
Tronie Foundation
United Deeds (Actions concertées)
Universidad Interamericana de Puerto Rico
Users and Survivors of Psychiatry in Kenya
Villages unis (United Villages)
Viridis Institute
Visión para el Desarrollo
Washington and Lee University
Well-Being Foundation
Women Support Center
Women's Empowerment Group
World Assembly of Youth
World Association for al-Azhar Graduates
World Togolese Foundation
Zamani Foundation
Zimbabwe Women Resources Centre and Network

(b) Decided to reclassify the following two non-governmental organizations from special to general consultative status:

Convention of Independent Financial Advisors
International Health Awareness Network

(c) Noted the decision by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to take note of the change of name of the following five non-governmental organizations:

Americans for UNFPA (special, 2002) to Friends of UNFPA
Berlin Civil Society Center (special, 2014) to International Civil Society Centre: convening capacity-building research
Family Planning Association of the Islamic Republic of Iran (special, 2010) to Family Health Association of Iran
International Presentation Association of the Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (special, 2000) to International Presentation Association
World Forum on the Future of Sport Shooting Activities (Roster, 2002) to World Forum on Shooting Activities

(d) Also noted that the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had taken note of the quadrennial reports of the following 172 non-governmental organizations:⁵

Action aides aux familles démunies
Africa Centre for Citizens Orientation
Afro Centre for Development Peace and Justice
Al-khoei Foundation
Alliance Defending Freedom
Americans for UNFPA
Anti-Slavery International
Argentine Society of Pediatrics
Asian Institute of Transport Development
Asian Legal Resource Centre

⁵ The reports listed are for the period 2010–2013, with the exception of seven reports for the period 2009–2012 and one report for the period 2008–2011, as indicated in the list with the dates in parentheses.

Asociación Civil Consorcio Desarrollo y Justicia
Asociación de Antiguas Alumnas del Colegio Madres Irlandesas (2009–2012)
Assembly of First Nations — National Indian Brotherhood
Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgeneros (2009–2012)
Associação de Mulheres contra a Violencia
Association apprentissage sans frontières
Association for Aid and Relief (Japan)
Association internationale des droits de l'enfant en difficulté et dans la souffrance
Association of Medical Doctors of Asia
Association pour la formation et l'insertion sociale de l'adolescent et de la femme
Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII
Ayande Roshan Nokhbegan Foundation
Azerbaijan Women and Development Center
Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights
Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication
Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University
Brazilian Foundation of America
Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation
Canadian Federation of University Women
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network
Cause première
Center for Policy Studies
Center for Public Health
Centre Europe-tiers monde
Centre féminin pour la promotion du développement
Child Care Consortium
China International Council for the Promotion of Multinational Corporations
China Society for Human Rights Studies
Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament
Chinese Young Volunteers Association
Collectif sénégalais des Africaines pour la promotion de l'éducation relative à l'environnement
Comité catholique contre la faim et pour le développement
Comité national d'action pour les droits de l'enfant et de la femme
Commonwealth Human Ecology Council
Cooperation and Participation in Overseas NGOs
Dominican Leadership Conference
Dones per la Llibertat i Democràcia
Drug Free America Foundation
Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration
Eastern Sudan Women Development Organization
Education International
Egyptian Association for Educational Resources
Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs
Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness
Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria
Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance
Family Africa
Family Planning Association of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Family Research Council
Federation of National Representations of the Experiment in International Living
Fondation Chantal Biya
Fondation généreuse développement
Fondation Suisse Maroc pour le développement durable
Free World Foundation
Friends World Committee for Consultation

Fundación Eudes
 Fundación para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer
 General Arab Women Federation (2009–2012)
 General Confederation of Trade Unions
 Génération recherche action et formation pour l’environnement
 Global Afrikan Congress
 Global Alliance against Traffic in Women
 Greenpeace International
 Hawa Society for Women
 Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries
 IFENDU for Women’s Development
 Il Cenacolo
 Imam Ali’s Popular Students Relief Society
 Imam Al-Sadr Foundation
 Imamia Medics International
 Ingénieurs du monde
 International Association for Women’s Mental Health
 International Association of Lions Clubs
 International Confederation of Childhood Cancer Parent Organizations
 International Cooperative Alliance
 International Council of Chemical Associations
 International Council of Management Consulting Institutes (2009–2012)
 International Council of Societies of Industrial Design
 International Council on Jewish Social and Welfare Services
 International Environmental Law Research Centre
 International Federation of Family Associations of Missing Persons from Armed Conflicts
 International Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse (2009–2012)
 International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres
 International Federation of Training and Development Organizations
 International First Aid Society
 International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission
 International Health Awareness Network
 International Higher Education Academy of Sciences
 International Investment Centre
 International La Strada Association
 International Network for Sustainable Energy
 International Psychoanalytical Association Trust
 International Relations Students’ Association of McGill University
 International Society of Doctors for the Environment
 International Union for the Scientific Study of Population
 International Women’s Year Liaison Group
 Interregional Union of Life Help for Mentally Handicapped Persons “Sail of Hope”
 Intersos Humanitarian Aid Organization
 ISIS: Women’s International Cross-Cultural Exchange
 Israel Women’s Network
 Italian Association for Aid to Children
 Jesuit Refugee Service
 José Martí Cultural Society
 Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture
 Kitakyushu Forum on Asian Women
 Kongres Wanita Indonesia
 Korea Freedom Federation
 Korea International Volunteer Organization
 Korean National Council of Women

Leonard Cheshire Disability
Liberians United to Expose Hidden Weapons
Maasai Aid Association
Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers
Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic
Mennonite Central Committee
Miracle Corners of the World
Movimento Italiano Casalinghe
Mujer para la Mujer
National Association of Vocational Education of China
National Federation of International Immigrant Women Associations
National Rehabilitation and Development Centre
Netherlands Centre for Indigenous Peoples
Network “Earth Village”
Network of Women’s Non-Governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran (2009–2012)
New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council
Organization for Defending Victims of Violence
Organization for the Solidarity of the Peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America
Oxfam International
Pacific Women’s Watch (New Zealand)
Parliamentarians for Global Action
Pew Environment Group
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Plan Sweden
Playdoo (Côte d’Ivoire)
Presbyterian Church USA
Presse emblème campagne
Rainforest Foundation
Real Women of Canada
Relief International (2008–2011)
Rissho Kosei-kai
Saint Petersburg Institute of Bioregulation and Gerontology of the North-Western Branch of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences
Samaj Kalyan O. Unnayan Shangstha
School Sisters of Notre Dame
Secours populaire français
Secure World Foundation
Shirley Ann Sullivan Educational Foundation
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem
Teresian Association
To Love Children Educational Foundation International
Traditions pour demain
UNESCO Association of Guwahati
Unión de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba
United Nations Watch
United Network of Young Peacebuilders
Viva Rio
War Resisters International (2009–2012)
Wildlife Conservation Society
Women Organization for Development and Capacity-Building

Women Power Connect
Women's Right to Education Programme
Women's Welfare Centre

(e) Decided to close without prejudice consideration of the requests for consultative status made by the following 29 non-governmental organizations after those organizations had failed, over the course of two consecutive sessions of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, to respond to queries posed to them by members of the Committee:

Action on Armed Violence
AFD International Belgium
APMM Company
Apne Aap Women's Collective
Asia Journalist Association
Azad Foundation
Computer and Communications Industry Association
Fundación Alisos
Genre en action
HAQ: Centre for Child Rights
International Ombudsman Institute
Internationale Vrije Vrouwen Stichting
Islamic Medical Association of North America
Kasheer Foundation
Kokkyo naki Kodomotachi
Middle East Children's Institute
Nobel Women's Initiative
North Korea Intellectuals Solidarity
Palpung Munishasan Dharmachakra Sangh
Peer Consultants
People for Equality and Relief in Lanka
Perpetual Succour for Women and Children Initiative
Rehabilitators
Scandinavian Institute for Human Rights Norway
Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics
Senos Ayuda
Skillshare International (India) Trust
United Hatzalah
Women's Information Center

(f) Noted the withdrawal by the following non-governmental organization of its application for consultative status:

Hizmet Relief

2015/208. Withdrawal of consultative status of non-governmental organizations

At its 22nd plenary meeting, on 8 April 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the request for withdrawal of consultative status by the non-governmental organizations Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development and International Holistic Tourism Education Centre.

2015/209. Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2015 regular session

At its 22nd plenary meeting, on 8 April 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2015 regular session.⁶

⁶ [E/2015/32](#) (Part I).

2015/210. Theme for the humanitarian affairs segment of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council

At its 30th plenary meeting, on 15 May 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided, with regard to the humanitarian affairs segment of its 2015 session, that:

- (a) The theme for the segment would be “The future of humanitarian affairs: towards greater inclusiveness, coordination, interoperability and effectiveness”;
- (b) It would convene two panel discussions under the segment.

2015/211. Economic and Social Council event to discuss the transition from relief to development

At its 30th plenary meeting, on 15 May 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided that, with regard to the event to discuss the transition from relief to development:

- (a) The title of the event would be “Supporting the transition from relief to development: promoting recovery and resilience”;
- (b) The event would be an informal activity held on the morning of 17 June 2015;
- (c) The event would consist of one panel discussion, and there would be no negotiated outcome.

2015/212. Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-fourth session

At its 32nd plenary meeting, on 8 June 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-third session;⁷
- (b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION
OF THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

- (a) Priority theme: Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world

- (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:
 - (i) World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;
 - (ii) Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities;
 - (iii) World Programme of Action for Youth;

⁷ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 6 and corrigendum (E/2015/26 and Corr.1).

(iv) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;

(v) Family issues, policies and programmes;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

Report of the Secretary-General on promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the post-2015 development agenda

(c) Emerging issues [*to be determined*].

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General

4. Programme questions and other matters.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018–2019: subprogramme 2, Social policy and development, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs

5. Provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Commission.

6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-fourth session.

2015/213. Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

At its 32nd plenary meeting, on 8 June 2015, the Economic and Social Council confirmed the nomination by the Commission for Social Development of the following three candidates for membership of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development:

(a) Saraswathu MENON (India), for a four-year term beginning on the date of confirmation by the Council and expiring on 30 June 2019;

(b) Ping HUANG (China) and Patricia SCHULZ (Switzerland), for an additional two-year term beginning on the date of confirmation by the Council and expiring on 30 June 2017.

2015/214. Venue and dates of and provisional agenda for the eleventh session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

At its 33rd plenary meeting, on 9 June 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decided that the eleventh session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters would be held in Geneva from 19 to 23 October 2015;

(b) Approved the following provisional agenda for the eleventh session of the Committee as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS
ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN TAX MATTERS

1. Opening of the session by the Chair of the Committee.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

3. Discussion of substantive issues related to international cooperation in tax matters:

(a) Issues related to the updating of the United Nations Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries:

(i) Article 1 (Persons covered): application of treaty rules to hybrid entities;

(ii) Article 5 (Permanent establishment): the meaning of “connected projects”;

- (iii) Article 8 (Shipping, inland waterways transport and air transport):
 - a. The meaning and coverage of the term “auxiliary activities”;
 - b. The application of the article to cruise shipping;
 - c. Other commentary issues;
- (iv) Base erosion and profit shifting;
- (v) Article 12 (Royalties):
 - a. The meaning of “industrial, commercial and scientific equipment”;
 - b. Software payment-related issues;
- (vi) Article 26 (Exchange of information): proposed Code of Conduct;
- (vii) Taxation of services:
 - a. Article on technical services;
 - b. Other issues;
- (b) Other issues:
 - (i) Issues for the next update of the United Nations Practical Manual on Transfer Pricing for Developing Countries;
 - (ii) Manual for the Negotiation of Bilateral Tax Treaties between Developed and Developing Countries;
 - (iii) Taxation of the extractive industries;
 - (iv) Taxation of development projects;
 - (v) Capacity-building;
 - (vi) Dispute settlement: arbitration issues for developing countries and possible ways forward;
 - (vii) International trade in goods – tax issues.
- 4. Dates and provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the Committee.
- 5. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its eleventh session.

2015/215. Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with United Nations research and training institutes

At its 33rd plenary meeting, on 9 June 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General on consultations on research, training and library services;⁸
- (b) Report of the Council of the United Nations University on the work of the University;⁹
- (c) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.¹⁰

⁸ [A/70/79-E/2015/70](#).

⁹ [E/2015/7](#).

¹⁰ [E/2015/12](#).

2015/216. Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session and provisional agenda for and dates of its forty-seventh session

At its 35th plenary meeting, on 10 June 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session;¹¹
- (b) Decided that the forty-seventh session of the Commission would be held in New York from 8 to 11 March 2016;
- (c) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh session of the Commission as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
Documentation
Provisional agenda and annotations
Note by the Secretariat on the provisional programme of work and timetable
3. Demographic and social statistics:
 - (a) Population and housing censuses;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (b) Disability statistics;
Documentation
Report of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics
 - (c) Poverty statistics;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (d) International migration statistics;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (e) Education statistics;
Documentation
Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
 - (f) Refugee statistics;
Documentation
Report of Statistics Norway and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

¹¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 4 (E/2015/24).*

- (g) Household surveys.

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

4. Economic statistics:

- (a) National accounts;

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

- (b) Industrial statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (c) Energy statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (d) Distributive trade statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (e) Statistics of international trade in services;

Documentation

Report of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services

- (f) Information and communications technologies statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communications Technology for Development

- (g) International Comparison Programme;

Documentation

Report of the World Bank

- (h) Price statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Ottawa Group on Price Indices

- (i) Informal sector statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics

- (j) Transformative agenda.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

5. Natural resources and environment statistics:
 - (a) Environmental-economic accounting;
Documentation
Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting
 - (b) Climate change statistics;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (c) Statistics for economies based on natural resources.
Documentation
Report of the Ulaanbaatar Group on Statistics for Economies based on Natural Resources
6. Activities not classified by field:
 - (a) Coordination of statistical programmes;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities
 - (b) Statistical capacity-building;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
Report of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century
 - (c) Development indicators;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (d) Follow-up to policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (e) National quality assurance frameworks;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (f) Integration of statistical and geospatial information;
Documentation
Report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
 - (g) Broader measures of progress;
Documentation
Report of the Friends of the Chair
 - (h) Big data;
Documentation
Report of the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics

- (i) World Statistics Day;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (j) Regional statistical development in Western Asia;

Documentation

Report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

- (k) Governance, peace and security statistics.

Documentation

Report of the Praia Group on governance statistics

7. Programme questions (Statistics Division).

8. Provisional agenda for and dates of the forty-eighth session of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the forty-eighth session of the Commission

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Commission

9. Report of the Commission on its forty-seventh session.

2015/217. Requests from non-governmental organizations to be heard by the Economic and Social Council

At its 36th plenary meeting, on 10 June 2015, the Economic and Social Council approved the list of non-governmental organizations recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to be heard by the Council at the high-level segment of its 2015 session.¹²

2015/218. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fifty-ninth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its sixtieth session

At its 36th plenary meeting, on 10 June 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fifty-ninth session¹³ and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the sixtieth session of the Commission set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE SIXTIETH SESSION
OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”:

- (a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives:

- (i) Priority theme: women’s empowerment and the link to sustainable development;

¹² E/2015/80.

¹³ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 7 (E/2015/27).

- (ii) Review theme: elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development

Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Note by the Secretariat containing a discussion guide for the high-level round table on women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development

- (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;
- (c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.

Documentation

Reports of the Secretary-General:

- Progress in mainstreaming a gender perspective in the development, implementation and evaluation of national policies and programmes, with a particular focus on the priority theme
- Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women
- Release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts (pursuant to Commission resolution [58/1](#))
- Women, the girl child and HIV and AIDS (pursuant to Commission resolution [58/3](#))
- Proposals on the Commission's priority themes for future sessions, bearing in mind the results of the ongoing review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution [61/16](#) and Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/30

Report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on the activities of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the outcome of relevant sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of confidential communications concerning the status of women and responses thereto

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.

Documentation

Letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women

Note by the Secretariat serving as a contribution to the work of the Economic and Social Council

6. Provisional agenda for the sixty-first session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixtieth session.

2015/219. Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the World Food Programme

At its 41st plenary meeting, on 29 June 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its first and second regular sessions and annual session of 2014;¹⁴

(b) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services on its work during 2014;¹⁵

(c) Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on the first and second regular sessions and annual session of 2014;¹⁶

(d) Reports of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on its first and second regular sessions and its annual session of 2014.¹⁷

2015/220. Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system;¹⁸

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the main decisions and policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security.¹⁹

2015/221. Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people.²⁰

2015/222. Application of the non-governmental organization Freedom Now for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided to grant special consultative status to the non-governmental organization Freedom Now.

¹⁴ Ibid., 2014, Supplement No. 14 (E/2014/34/Rev.1).

¹⁵ Ibid., Supplement No. 15 (E/2014/35).

¹⁶ Ibid., 2015, Supplement No. 16 (E/2015/36).

¹⁷ E/2015/47.

¹⁸ A/70/75-E/2015/55.

¹⁹ A/70/92-E/2015/82 and Corr.1.

²⁰ A/70/76-E/2015/57.

2015/223. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decided to grant consultative status to the following 161 non-governmental organizations:

Special consultative status

Action solidaire pour le développement communautaire
Actions pour l'environnement et le développement durable
Active Help Organization
Adjmor
Advocates for International Development
Agalliao Development Initiative
Agence pour les droits de l'homme
Alliance for Health Promotion
Appui aux femmes démunies et enfants marginalisés au Kivu
Arab Anti-Corruption Organisation
Arab Group for the Protection of Nature
Asociación Colectivo de Víctimas del Terrorismo en el País Vasco "COVITE"
Association d'intérêt régional
Association des femmes peuples autochtones du Tchad
Association des ressortissants et amis d'Éséka
Association femmes solidaires au Togo
Association Miraisme International
Association nationale de coopération pour le développement du Cameroun
Association Panafrica
Association pour les victimes du monde
Associazione Carcere et Territorio
Billie Human Rights Initiative
Canada's National Firearms Association
Carbone Guinée
Centre catholique international de Genève
Centre de vulgarisation de l'outil informatique
Centre for Budget and Policy Studies
Centre for Equality
Centre for Renewable Energy and Action on Climate Change
Centre international de droit comparé de l'environnement
CGFNS International
Chant du guépard dans le désert
Child Concern
China Association of Non-Profit Organizations
Chinese American Parent-Student Council of New York City
Concepts of Truth
Connecting.nyc
Corporación Acción Técnica Social
Coup de pouce
Dar Si Hmad for Development, Education and Culture, Sidi Ifni
Darüşşafaka Cemiyeti
Development Generation Africa International
Diplomatic Council
Disease Management Association of India
Dynamique des groupes des peuples autochtones
East and Central African Association for Indigenous Rights
Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development
Elizka Relief Foundation

Emergency: Life Support for Civilian War Victims
Engage Now Africa
Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development
Eurasia Reiyukai
EuroChild
Euthanasia Prevention Coalition
Fairfood International
Feed The Children
FEMM Foundation
Fielding Graduate University
Fondation de la progéniture Denis Lomela Ifangwa
Fondation Institut de recherche pour le développement durable et les relations internationales
Fondation Mohammed VI pour la protection de l'environnement
Fondation pour l'éradication du travail des enfants dans la culture du tabac
Fondazione Giovanni Paolo II per il dialogo, cooperazione e sviluppo
Fondazione Rosselli Americas
Forum for Women in Democracy
Forum réfugiés-Cosi
Freedom Now
Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social
Fundación Riba
Gadejuristen
Galkayo Medical Centre
Gandhi Worldwide Education Institute
Global Academy Institute of Technology Foundation
Global Bioethics Initiative
Global Migration Policy Associates
Global Partnership for Local Action
Global Vision India Foundation
Groupe d'action pour la survie, la santé et l'éducation de la mère et de l'enfant
Healthy Start Initiative
Help Me See
Human in Love
Institut de la démocratie et de la coopération
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Loreto Generalate
Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group
Inter-action globale
International Association of Technical Survey and Classification Institutions
International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation
International Veterinary Students Association
International Women and Family Foundation
International-Lawyers.org
Isa Viswa Prajnana Trust
Janaseva Foundation
Japan National Assembly of Disabled Peoples' International
Japan Overseas Cooperative Association
Kaurareg Aboriginal Land Trust
Kršćanski centar za pomoc i rehabilitaciju ovisnika i obitelji “Stijena”
L'Arche internationale
Laya
Managing Committee of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences
Manav Pragati Sansthan, Rajgarh
Manhattan Multicultural Counseling
Martina Centre for Sustainable Development
Medrar

México Unido contra la Delincuencia
Miral Welfare Foundation
Mountain Area Information Network
Muzaffarabad Poverty Alleviation Programme
National Aboriginal Circle against Family Violence
National Women's Welfare Society Darwha, Yavatmal
New Zealand Drug Foundation
Niger Talents
Noah's Arc Foundation
Nouveaux droits de l'homme
Oil Change International
Organisation pour la prévention et l'intervention contre les risques et contingences
Organizzazione Mondiale degli Agricoltori
Palestinian Return Centre
Parlement africain de la société civile
Peace and Life Enhancement Initiative International
Poverty Alleviation for the Poor Initiative
"Preporod"
Privacy International
Promotion pour le développement
Pukar Foundation
Queensland Association of Independent Legal Services
Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan
Rede Brasileira de Redução de Danos e Direitos Humanos
Roundtable Association of Catholic Diocesan Social Action Directors
Sahyog International Foundation
Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled
Samarthyam
Sambhali Trust
Segretariato Permanente dei Premi Nobel per la Pace
Servicios Ecuménicos para Reconciliación y Reconstrucción
Shivi Development Society
Sikh Human Rights Group
Specified Non-profit Corporation, Health and Global Policy Institute
Stichting African Sky
Stichting Global Human Rights Defence
Stichting International Civil Society Support
Stiftelsen Stockholm International Water Institute
Support to Deprived Peoples
Sustainable Environment Development Initiative
Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministry
Toplumsal Haklar ve Araştırmalar Derneği
Trakya Kalkınma Derneği
Trilok Youth Club and Charitable Trust, Vadodara
Tripura Foundation
United Kingdom Grand Priory of the International Knightly Order Valiant of Saint George
United Nations Women for Peace Association
United States Sustainable Development Corporation
Utah China Friendship Improvement Sharing Hands Development and Commerce
Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs
Vier Pfoten International
Warbe Development Foundation
Wash United
World Alliance of Peoples' Organisations
World Taoist Association

WorldTeach

Young Women's Christian Association of the United States of America

Youth and Women Empowerment Centre

(b) Also decided to reclassify the following non-governmental organizations:

(i) From the Roster to special consultative status

International Union of Railways

World Animal Net

World Organization for Early Childhood Education

(ii) From special to general consultative status

Perfect Union

(c) Noted the decision by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to take note of the change of name of the following three non-governmental organizations:

International Catholics Organisation of the Media (special, 1951) to International Christian Organisation of the Media

International Committee for the Indians of the Americas (special, 2003) to International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas

Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement (special, 2007) to End Human Trafficking Now

(d) Also noted that the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had taken note of the quadrennial reports of the following 168 non-governmental organizations for the period 2010–2013, except where stated otherwise:

8th Day Center for Justice

Academy of Labour and Social Relations

African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies

African Services Committee

African Youth Movement

AFS Inter-Cultural Programs

Agencia Latinoamericana de Información

Airports Council International

All-Russian Society of Disabled People

American Cancer Society

American Society of Safety Engineers

Antioch Christian Centre

Architectes de l'urgence

Association congolaise d'éducation et de prévention contre des maladies et la drogue

Association des jeunes pour le développement humain et la protection de l'environnement

Association for Assistance to Families with Disabled Children

Association for Sustainable Human Development

Association internationale de lutte contre la pauvreté et pour le développement

Association marocaine pour la promotion de la femme rurale

Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa

Association of Presbyterian Women of Aotearoa, New Zealand

Ayuda y Solidaridad con las Niñas de la Calle

Baha'i International Community

Baptist World Alliance

Becket Fund for Religious Liberty

Blagovest Centre of People's Help International Public Charitable Organization

Bridges International

Business Council for Sustainable Energy

Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women

Caribbean and Latin America Trade Association

Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action
Centre de recherches et de promotion pour la sauvegarde des sites et monuments historiques en Afrique
Centre for Development Strategy
Centro di Ricerca e Documentazione Febbraio 74
China Disabled Persons Federation
Chinese Immigrants Services
Christian Aid
Church World Service
Comité français des organisations non gouvernementales pour la liaison et l'information des Nations Unies
Comité international pour le respect et l'application de la Charte africaine des droits de l'homme et des peuples
Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy
Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations
Consortium d'appui aux actions pour la promotion et le développement de l'Afrique
Consumers International
Couple to Couple League International
Dayemi Complex Bangladesh
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
Deniz Feneri Yardimlasma ve Dayanisma Dernegi
Dominicans for Justice and Peace – Order of Preachers
East-West Management Institute
Eco-Accord – Center for Environment and Sustainable Development
EUROSOLAR Turkey
Exchange and Cooperation Centre for Latin America
Federation européenne des femmes actives au foyer
Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia
Federation of Women Lawyers in Kenya
Forest Peoples Programme
Forum pour l'intégration des migrantes et des migrants
Fundación Teleton Mexico
Global Housing Foundation
Gram Bharati Samiti
Grassroots Organisations Operating Together in Sisterhood
Green Asia Network
Health on the Net Foundation
Henry Dunant Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue
Hope for Africa
Human Resource Development Foundation
Humanitarian Accountability Partnership International
Humanity First
Incorvuz-XXI
Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru"
Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee
Indonesian Child Welfare Foundation
Institut de politique familiale
Institute for Energy and Environmental Research
Institute of Global Education
Institute of International Sociology of Gorizia
Integrated Development in Focus
Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development
Inter-European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development
International Air Transport Association
International Association for Humanitarian Medicine Brock Chisholm
International Association for Integration, Dignity and Economic Advancement
International Association of Ports and Harbors
International Association of Y's Men's Clubs

International Blue Crescent Relief and Development Foundation
International Center for Research on Women
International Chamber of Commerce
International Coastal and Ocean Organization
International Commission on Workforce Development
International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation
International Congo Aid – Smile African Children
International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction
International Council of Voluntary Agencies
International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations
International Federation of Inspection Agencies
International Federation of Women Lawyers
International Fund for Animal Welfare
International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations
International Justice Mission
International League for Human Rights
International PEN
International Planned Parenthood Federation, Africa region
International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance
International Research Foundation for Development
International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication
International Sustainable Energy Organisation for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
International Union of Psychological Science
International Women’s Democracy Center
Internet Society
Italian Association for Women in Development
Japanese Association of International Women’s Rights
JMJ Children’s Fund of Canada
Kids First Fund
LatCrit
Leadership Watch
League of Kenya Women Voters
Lebanese Association for Popular Action
LGBT Denmark: National Organization for Gay Men, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgendered People
Local Governments for Sustainability
Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development
Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights
Marie Stopes International
Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation
Mental Disability Rights International
Mercy Corps
Miramed Institute
National Association for Resource Improvement
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
National Congress of American Indians
National Organization of Women’s Association in the Bahamas
Native American Rights Fund
New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties
Organisation marocaine des droits humains
Peace Boat
People’s Decade of Human Rights Education
Rainforest Foundation International
Reach Out and Care Wheels
Rozan
Rural Reconstruction Nepal

Russian Academy of Natural Sciences
Saferworld
Social Ecology Foundation
Society of International Humanitarian Surgeons
Tchad agir pour l'environnement
The Grail
Tides Center
Tiye International
Türkiye Kadın Girişimciler Derneği
Union of Luso-African-America-Asiatic Capital Cities
Universal Esperanto Association
Universitas 21
Urban Justice Center
Verein zur Förderung der Völkerverständigung
Women's Intercultural Network
World Federalist Movement
World Federation of Trade Unions
World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations
World for World Organization
World Information Transfer
World Jewellery Confederation
World Leisure Organization
World Organization of the Scout Movement
World ORT Union
World Peace and Economic Development Organization
World Student Christian Federation
Yemeni Women Union
Youth Empowerment Alliance

(e) Decided to close without prejudice consideration of the requests for consultative status made by the following 27 non-governmental organizations after those organizations had failed, after three reminders over the course of two consecutive sessions of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, to respond to queries posed to them by members of the Committee:

Akhil Bharatiya Sanskritik Sangh
Akshaya Patra Foundation
Ark Jammers Connection
Beautiful Eves of Africa Organisation
Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes
Child Foundation
Child Rights Information Network
Corporation Global Together
Democracywatch
Environmental Degradation Organization of Nigeria
Global Community Health Foundation
International Green Economy Association
Kottayam Social Service Society
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
Medsin-UK
National Alliance of Women
National Center for Civil and Human Rights
New World Hope Organization
Participatory Development Action Program
Peace and Hope International
Raleigh-Ghana
Rights and Resources Institute

S.R. Institute of Development
Shack Dwellers International (South Africa)
Stichting Arseh Sevom
Sukalyan Welfare Society
Women for Women, a Research and Study Group

(f) Also decided to close without prejudice consideration of the application for reclassification of status by the following non-governmental organization after it had failed, after three reminders over the course of two consecutive sessions of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, to respond to queries posed to it by members of the Committee:

United States Federation for Middle East Peace

2015/224. Withdrawal of consultative status of the non-governmental organization African Technical Association

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided to withdraw the consultative status of the non-governmental organization African Technical Association.

2015/225. Withdrawal of consultative status of the non-governmental organization African Technology Development Link

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided to withdraw the consultative status of the non-governmental organization African Technology Development Link.

2015/226. Suspension of consultative status of non-governmental organizations with outstanding quadrennial reports, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/4

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided, in accordance with its resolution 2008/4 of 21 July 2008, to suspend immediately, for a period of one year, the consultative status of the 165 non-governmental organizations listed below, and requested the Secretariat to advise the concerned organizations of their suspension:

3D Trade, Human Rights, Equitable Economy
Aahung
Africa Safe Water Foundation
African American Islamic Institute
Agence d'aide à la coopération technique et au développement
Agir ensemble pour les droits de l'homme
Ain o Salish Kendra
Al Mezan Center for Human Rights
Amis de la terre (Togo)
Amman Center for Human Rights Studies
Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network
Asian Migrant Centre
Asociación Habitat Pro
Association de développement de Korba
Association des états généraux des étudiants de l'Europe
Association des femmes éducatrices du Mali
Association européenne des cheminots
Association guinéenne pour la réinsertion des toxicomanes
Association of Former Diplomats of China
Association of Former United Nations Industry and Development Experts
Association of Interbalkan Women's Cooperation Societies
Association pour la lutte contre le travail des enfants au Niger
Association pour la promotion de l'emploi et du logement
Austrian Federal Economic Chamber
Big Brothers Big Sisters International

Biogas Sector Partnership Nepal
Biopolitics International Organisation
Building and Social Housing Foundation
Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft der Senioren-Organisationen
Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies
Canadian Race Relations Foundation
Capital Humano y Social Alternativo
CARE
Catholic International Education Office
Center for Assistance to Human Right Protection
Center for Oceans Law and Policy
Centre d'accompagnement des alternatives locales de développement
Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology
Centre for the World Religions
Centre for Women the Earth the Divine
China Association for International Science and Technology Cooperation
China Education Association for International Exchange
Community Development Volunteers for Technical Assistance
Conectas Direitos Humanos
Coordinadora de la Mujer
Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service
Dental Care International Foundation
Eco-Ecolo
Eco-Tiras International Environmental Association of River Keepers
Ecopeace –Middle East Environmental NGO Forum
Egyptian Organization for Human Rights
Engender
Ethiopian World Federation
European Federation for Transport and Environment
European Space Policy Institute
European Union of Women
Flora Tristan Peruvian Women's Center
Forum of Culture and Arts of Uzbekistan
Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute
Fundación Alvarallice
Fundación Cimientos
Fundación Democrática Ítalo-Americana
Fundación UNITRAN
Global Alliance on Accessible Technologies and Environments
Global Alliance for Women's Health
Global Village for Rehabilitation and Development
Global Witness
Group of 78
Groupe pivot: droit et citoyenneté des femmes
Guild of Service
Half the Sky Foundation
HELIO International
Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres
Hope for the Nations
Human Rights Commission of Pakistan
Humanitarian Law Center
Indonesian National Council on Social Welfare
Institut de la gestion déléguée
Institute of Inter-Balkan Relations
International AIDS Vaccine Initiative

International Association for Human Values
International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage
International Communities for the Renewal of the Earth
International Council of Psychologists
International Energy Foundation
International Forestry Students Association
International Lesbian and Gay Federation Europe
International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions
International Wages for Housework Campaign
International Women's Writing Guild
International Young Catholic Students
IPAS
Isigodlo Trust –South African Women in Dialogue
Israeli Committee against House Demolitions
Justice for All Prison Fellowship Ethiopia
Kiwanis International
Korean Federation for Environmental Movement
Ladies Charitable Society
Leadership for Environment and Development
Lebanon Family Planning Association
Lesbian and Gay Federation in Germany
Lighthouse International
Macedonian Center for International Cooperation
Mamta: Health Institute for Mother and Child
Mariano y Rafael Castillo Córdova Foundation
MaterCare International
Mauritius Family Planning Association
Medical Aid for Palestinians
Medico International
Mehr Nuri Public Foundation
Missions3G-Gauri
Movimiento Manuela Ramos
Muslim Aid Australia
National Assembly of Youth Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan
National Association of Friendship Centres
National Association of Non-Governmental Organizations
National Center for Missing and Exploited Children
National Center for State Courts
National Confederation of Women in Equality
National Coordinator for Human Rights
National Foundation for Women Legislators
National Rural Support Programme
Network of East-West Women
Northern Alliance for Sustainability
Organisation des hommes démunis et enfants orphelins pour le développement
Organisation internationale pour la réduction des catastrophes
Pan-African Women's Organization
Pauktuutit Inuit Women's Association of Canada
Political and Ethical Knowledge on Economic Activities
Population Reference Bureau
Population Services International
Pro Dignitate Foundation of Human Rights
Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini
Red de Salud de las Mujeres Latinoamericanas y del Caribe
Rehabilitation International

Rooftops Canada
Save Africa Concerts Foundation
Saviya Development Foundation
Seniors Españoles para la Cooperación Técnica
Sinha Institute of Medical Science and Technology
Social Development Center
Society for Comparative Legislation
Spirituality for Kids
Swami Vivekanand Samaj Seva Samsthe
Swedish Organisation of Disabled Persons International Aid Association
Third World Network-Africa
UBUNTU Forum
Ukrainian Non-Governmental Socio-Political Association-National Assembly of Persons with Disabilities
Union nationale de la femme tunisienne
Unione Intercontinentale Casalinghe
Vienna Institute for Development and Cooperation
Vikas Samiti
West Africa Network for Peacebuilding
Winvisible –Women with Visible and Invisible Disability
Womankind Worldwide
Women against Rape
WomenAid Collective
Women in Law and Development in Africa
Women’s Crisis Centre
Women’s Environmental Development and Training
Women’s Legal Education and Action Fund
Women’s Political Watch
World Granny
World Road Association
Youth for the Child’s Welfare

2015/227. Reinstatement of consultative status of non-governmental organizations that submitted outstanding quadrennial reports, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/4

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided, in accordance with its resolution 2008/4 of 21 July 2008, and recalling its decision 2014/223 of 14 July 2014, to reinstate the consultative status of the 24 non-governmental organizations listed below, which had submitted their outstanding quadrennial reports:

African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies
Asociación de Antiguas Alumnas del Colegio Madres Irlandesas
Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgeneros
Comité français des organisations non gouvernementales pour la liaison et l’information des Nations Unies
Consumers International
General Arab Women Federation
Indian Movement “Tupaj Amaru”
International Air Transport Association
International Commission of Jurists
International Council of Management Consulting Institutes
International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations
International Federation of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse
International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations
International Justice Mission
League of Kenya Women Voters
Lebanese Association for Popular Action
Marie Stopes International

Network of Women's Non-Governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran
Relief International
Rural Reconstruction Nepal
Union of Luso-African-America-Asiatic Capital Cities
War Resisters International
World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations
Yemeni Women Union

2015/228. Withdrawal of consultative status of non-governmental organizations in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/4

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided, in accordance with its resolution 2008/4 of 21 July 2008 and recalling its decision 2014/223 of 14 July 2014, to withdraw immediately the consultative status of the 85 non-governmental organizations listed below, and requested the Secretariat to advise the organizations concerned of the decision:

Academy for Educational Development
Actions solidaires de soutien aux organisations et d'appui aux libertés
Adelphi Research
African Community Resource Center
Africare
Aim for Human Rights
Ambassadors for Children
America Mideast Educational and Training Services
Asian Federation of Laryngectomees Association
Association for the Study of the World Refugee Problem
Association jeunesse culture loisirs technique
Association malienne d'initiatives et d'actions pour le développement
Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia and the Pacific
Association pour la collaboration globale
Association pour la protection de la nature et de l'environnement de Kairouan
Association pour la recherche sur la sclérose latérale amyotrophique et autres maladies du motoneurone
Association tunisienne des mères
Australian Reproductive Health Alliance
Aviation sans frontières
Center for Studies on Turkey
Centre d'animation, de formation, de recherche et d'appui au développement
Citizens for Decent Housing
Coalition nationale de Guinée pour les droits et la citoyenneté des femmes
Coordination SUD
Crime Stoppers International
Democracy Coalition Project
DIYA All-Ukrainian Women's People's Democratic Association
Ecologic Institute for International and European Environmental Policy
Egyptian Red Crescent Society
Enfants du monde: droits de l'homme
Ensemble allons dans la paix
European Roma Rights Center
FATIMA Women's Network
Firooznia Charity Foundation
Fondation El Kef pour le développement régional
Fondation Maman Henriette Conte

Fundación de la Solidaridad y el Voluntariado de la Comunidad Valenciana
Fundación Mujeres en Igualdad
Fundación Red Deporte y Cooperación
GAVI Fund
Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Global Cooperation Society
Human Rights Education Associates
Institute of Internal Auditors
International Association of Prosecutors
International Centre for Ethnic Studies
International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights
International Foundation of Alternative Financial Institutions²¹
International Maritime Committee
International Mediterranean Women's Forum
International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences
International Union of Building Centres
International Union of Technical Associations and Organisations
Istanbul International Brotherhood and Solidarity Association
Kenya Tuitakayo: Citizens Coalition for Constitutional Change
Kerala Rural Development Agency
Libera: Associazioni, Nomi e Numeri Contro le Mafie
Light and Hope Association for Blind Girls
Magnificat Environment
Mediterranean Water Institute
Mouvement pour l'abolition de la prostitution et de la pornographie et de toutes formes de violences sexuelles
et discriminations sexistes
National Aboriginal Forestry Association
National Abortion Federation
National Association for Protection of Environment and Green Egypt
National Fishworkers' Forum
National Society for Human Rights
Navjyoti India Foundation
Orbicom: réseau des chaires UNESCO en communication
Organisation tunisienne de l'éducation et de la famille
PARTAGE
Project Concern International
Safe Water Africa Community Initiative
Scouts musulmans algériens
Society for Development of Services in Heliopolis
Survivor Corps
Synergos Institute
Turkish Foundation for Children in Need of Protection
Union for Sustainable Return and Integrations in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Union Iberoamericana de Colegios y Agrupaciones de Abogados
Women's National Commission
World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises
World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation

²¹ The name of the non-governmental organization was reflected incorrectly in the previous documents of the Committee as "International Network of Alternative Financial Institutions".

World Confederation of Productivity Science
World LP Gas Association
Youth Association for Habitat and Agenda 21

2015/229. Dates of and provisional agenda for the 2016 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decided that the 2016 regular session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations would be held from 25 January to 3 February and on 16 February 2016, and that its 2016 resumed session would be held from 23 May to 1 June and on 10 June 2016;

(b) Approved the provisional agenda for the 2016 session of the Committee as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 2016 SESSION OF THE
COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations:
 - (a) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from previous sessions of the Committee;
 - (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification;
 - (c) Applications of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that have merged with non-governmental organizations without such consultative status.
4. Quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council:
 - (a) Deferred quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council;
 - (b) Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council.
5. Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat.
6. Review of the methods of work of the Committee: implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, including the process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations, and Council decision 1995/304:
 - (a) Process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations;
 - (b) Consideration of issues on the agenda of the informal working group;
 - (c) Other related matters.
7. Consideration of special reports.
8. General voluntary trust fund in support of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network.
9. Provisional agenda and documentation for the 2017 session of the Committee.
10. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its 2016 session.

2015/230. Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2015 resumed session

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 20 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2015 resumed session.²²

2015/231. African countries emerging from conflict

At its 52nd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan by the United Nations system²³ and requested that a report on the subject be submitted for consideration by the Council at its 2016 session.

2015/232. Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the reports of coordination bodies and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017

At its 52nd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

- (a) Relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017 (relevant fascicles of [A/70/6](#));
- (b) Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its fifty-fifth session;²⁴
- (c) Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2014.²⁵

2015/233. Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-third session

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-third session.²⁶

2015/234. Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 2013/246 of 25 July 2013, entitled “Improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime”, in which it, inter alia, reaffirmed Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution [52/13](#) of 20 March 2009²⁷ and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution [18/3](#) of 24 April 2009²⁸ and decided to renew the mandate of the working group until the part of the sessions of the Commissions to be held in the first half of 2015, at which time the Commissions would carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate:

- (a) Reaffirmed the efficiency of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
- (b) Also reaffirmed the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the

²² [E/2015/32](#) (Part II).

²³ [E/2015/74](#).

²⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 16* ([A/70/16](#)).

²⁵ [E/2015/71](#).

²⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 10A* ([E/2014/30/Add.1](#)).

²⁷ *Ibid.*, 2009, *Supplement No. 8* ([E/2009/28](#)), chap. I, sect. C.

²⁸ *Ibid. Supplement No. 10* ([E/2009/30](#)), chap. I, sect. D.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of crime prevention and criminal justice and as the governing body of the crime programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(c) Expressed once again its continued concern about the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and also expressed its awareness of the continued need to address those issues in a pragmatic, results-oriented, efficient and cooperative manner;

(d) Reaffirmed Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 52/13 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 18/3, as well as Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 54/10 of 25 March 2011,²⁹ 54/17 of 13 December 2011³⁰ and 56/11 of 15 March 2013³¹ and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 20/1 of 13 April 2011,³² 20/9 of 13 December 2011³³ and 22/2 of 26 April 2013,³⁴ and decided to renew the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime until the part of the sessions of the Commissions to be held in the first half of 2017, at which time the Commissions would carry out a thorough review of the functioning of the working group and consider the extension of its mandate;

(e) Decided that the working group would hold formal and informal meetings in line with current practice, and that the dates of those meetings would be determined by the co-chairs of the working group, in consultation with the Secretariat;

(f) Requested that the relevant documentation be provided to the working group not later than 10 working days before a meeting;

(g) Reiterated the importance of the development by Member States of an indicative annual workplan, taking into account inputs from the Secretariat, in order to guide the work of the working group, and approved the provisional agenda of the working group as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE STANDING OPEN-ENDED INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP
ON IMPROVING THE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL SITUATION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME

1. Biennial consolidated budget for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
2. Governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
3. Evaluation and oversight.
4. Other matters.

2015/235. Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its twenty-fourth session and provisional agenda for its twenty-fifth session

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its twenty-fourth session;³⁵

(b) Reaffirmed Commission decision 21/1 of 27 April 2012;³⁶

(c) Approved the provisional agenda for the twenty-fifth session of the Commission as set out below:

²⁹ Ibid., 2011, *Supplement No. 8* (E/2011/28), chap. I, sect. C.

³⁰ Ibid., *Supplement No. 8A* (E/2011/28/Add.1), chap. I, sect. C.

³¹ Ibid., 2013, *Supplement No. 8* (E/2013/28), chap. I, sect. C.

³² Ibid., 2011, *Supplement No. 10* (E/2011/30), chap. I, sect. D.

³³ Ibid., *Supplement No. 10A* (E/2011/30/Add.1), chap. I, sect. C.

³⁴ Ibid., 2013, *Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/2013/30 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

³⁵ Ibid., 2015, *Supplement No. 10* (E/2015/30).

³⁶ Ibid., 2012, *Supplement No. 10* and corrigenda (E/2012/30 and Corr. 1 and 2), chap. I, sect. D.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION
ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:
 - (a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
 - (b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme;
 - (c) Working methods of the Commission;
 - (d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.
4. Thematic discussion on criminal justice responses to prevent and counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the financing of terrorism, and technical assistance in support of the implementation of relevant international conventions and protocols.
5. Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice:
 - (a) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;
 - (b) Ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
 - (c) Ratification and implementation of the international instruments to prevent and combat terrorism;
 - (d) Other crime prevention and criminal justice matters;
 - (e) Other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies.
6. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.
7. World crime trends and emerging issues and responses in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.
8. Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.
9. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution [68/1](#).
10. Provisional agenda for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission.
11. Other business.
12. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-fifth session.

2015/236. Appointment of a member of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the appointment of Christine M. CLINE (United States of America) to the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.

2015/237. Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-seventh session

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened fifty-seventh session.³⁷

2015/238. Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-eighth session and provisional agenda for its fifty-ninth session

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its fifty-eighth session;³⁸
- (b) Also took note of Commission decision [55/1](#) of 7 December 2012³⁹ and Commission resolutions [57/5](#) of 21 March 2014⁴⁰ and [58/8](#) of 17 March 2014;⁴¹
- (c) Approved the provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTY-NINTH SESSION
OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

- 1. Election of officers.
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Operational segment

- 3. Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:
 - (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;
 - (b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:
 - (i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
 - (ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions;
 - (c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.

Normative segment

- 4. Round-table discussions.
- 5. Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016:
 - (a) Demand reduction and related measures;
 - (b) Supply reduction and related measures;
 - (c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.

³⁷ Ibid., 2014, Supplement No. 8A ([E/2014/28/Add.1](#)).

³⁸ Ibid., 2015, Supplement No. 8 ([E/2015/28](#)).

³⁹ Ibid., 2012, Supplement No. 8A ([E/2012/28/Add.1](#)), chap. I, sect. B.

⁴⁰ Ibid., 2014, Supplement No. 8 ([E/2014/28](#)), chap. I, sect. C.

⁴¹ Ibid., 2015, Supplement No. 8 ([E/2015/28](#)), chap. I, sect. C.

6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
 - (a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;
 - (b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
 - (c) International Narcotics Control Board;
 - (d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;
 - (e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.
7. World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.
8. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution [68/1](#).

Special segment

9. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.⁴²
10. Provisional agenda for the sixtieth session of the Commission.
11. Other business.
12. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session.

2015/239. Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2014.⁴³

2015/240. Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with crime prevention and criminal justice, and narcotic drugs

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;⁴⁴

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on capital punishment and implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty;⁴⁵

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the progress made in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.⁴⁶

⁴² The agenda and programme of work for the special segment will be determined at a later date. See also Commission decision [58/15](#).

⁴³ International Narcotics Control Board, document [E/INCB/2014/1](#).

⁴⁴ [A/70/90-E/2015/81](#).

⁴⁵ [E/2015/49](#) and Corr.1.

⁴⁶ [A/70/87-E/2015/79](#).

2015/241. Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the advancement of women and human rights

At its 53rd plenary meeting, on 21 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on its ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth sessions;⁴⁷
- (b) Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its fifty-second and fifty-third sessions;⁴⁸
- (c) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;⁴⁹
- (d) Note by the Secretariat transmitting the results of the fifty-seventh, fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.⁵⁰

2015/242. Extension of the mandate of the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided to extend the mandate of the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development for a further five years, beginning on 1 January 2016, in order to allow it to complete its programme of work within the extrabudgetary resources allocated for that purpose.

2015/243. Participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 and its decisions 2008/217 of 18 July 2008, 2010/226 of 19 July 2010 and 2011/236 of 26 July 2011, and recognizing the need to maximize the meaningful participation of and contributions by civil society in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development:

- (a) Acknowledged that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development had benefited from the participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities in its work;
- (b) Decided, on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to the established rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, to extend to non-governmental organizations and civil society entities that were not in consultative status with the Council but that had received accreditation to the World Summit on the Information Society an invitation to participate in the work of the Commission until 2020;
- (c) Urged that voluntary contributions be made in order to provide the maximum possible assistance for the participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities from developing countries and to ensure the balanced representation of such organizations and entities, including in the panels of the Commission;
- (d) Invited the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to consider as expeditiously as possible the applications of such organizations and entities, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Council;
- (e) Decided that, while using the multi-stakeholder approach effectively, the intergovernmental nature of the Commission should be preserved;
- (f) Also decided that every effort should be made by the Commission, in collaboration with relevant United Nations bodies and other interested parties, to mobilize and ensure the meaningful and effective participation, including by providing assistance on a voluntary basis, of all stakeholders from developing countries, including non-governmental organizations, small and medium-sized enterprises, industry associations and development actors.

⁴⁷ A/70/55.

⁴⁸ E/2015/22.

⁴⁹ E/2015/59.

⁵⁰ E/2015/67.

2015/244. Participation of academic and technical entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 and its decisions 2008/218 of 18 July 2008, 2010/227 of 19 July 2010 and 2011/237 of 26 July 2011, recognizing the need to maximize the meaningful participation of and contributions by academic entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, and having reviewed the current modalities for the participation of such entities:

- (a) Acknowledged that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development had benefited from the participation of academic entities in its work;
- (b) Decided to extend the current arrangements for the participation of academic and technical entities in the work of the Commission until 2020;
- (c) Also decided that, while using the multi-stakeholder approach effectively, the intergovernmental nature of the Commission should be preserved;
- (d) Further decided that every effort should be made by the Commission, in collaboration with relevant United Nations bodies and other interested parties, to mobilize and ensure the meaningful and effective participation, including by providing assistance on a voluntary basis, of all stakeholders from developing countries, including non-governmental organizations, small and medium-sized enterprises, industry associations and development actors.

2015/245. Participation of business sector entities, including the private sector, in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 and its decisions 2007/216 of 26 April 2007, 2010/228 of 19 July 2010 and 2011/238 of 26 July 2011, recognizing the need to maximize the meaningful participation of and contributions by business sector entities, including the private sector, in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, and having reviewed the current modalities for the participation of such entities:

- (a) Acknowledged that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development had benefited from the participation of business sector entities, including the private sector, in its work;
- (b) Decided to extend the current arrangements for the participation of business sector entities, including the private sector, in the work of the Commission until 2020;
- (c) Also decided that, while using the multi-stakeholder approach effectively, the intergovernmental nature of the Commission should be preserved;
- (d) Further decided that every effort should be made by the Commission, in collaboration with relevant United Nations bodies and other interested parties, to mobilize and ensure the meaningful and effective participation, including by providing assistance on a voluntary basis, of all stakeholders from developing countries, including non-governmental organizations, small and medium-sized enterprises, industry associations and development actors.

2015/246. Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eighteenth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its nineteenth session

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eighteenth session;⁵¹
- (b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the nineteenth session of the Commission as set out below:

⁵¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 11 (E/2015/31).*

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE NINETEENTH SESSION
OF THE COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

3. Science and technology for development

Priority themes:

- (a) Smart cities and infrastructure;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (b) Foresight for digital development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews.
5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twentieth session of the Commission.
6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twentieth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its nineteenth session.

2015/247. Venue and dates of and provisional agenda for the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decided that the fifteenth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 18 to 22 April 2016;

(b) Approved the provisional agenda for the fifteenth session of the Committee as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTEENTH SESSION OF THE
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Moving from commitments to results: transforming public institutions to facilitate inclusive policy formulation and integration in the implementation and monitoring of the sustainable development goals:
 - (a) Ensuring prioritization and decision-making that is fair, responsive, inclusive, participatory and accountable at all levels;
 - (b) Improving engagement and communication between Governments and stakeholders, including through access to information, open government and electronic and mobile solutions;
 - (c) Ensuring effective and innovative implementation, monitoring and impact evaluation of the policies identified in support of the sustainable development goals;

- (d) Strengthening the confidence of citizens in the effectiveness, validity and integrity of public administration through enhanced, targeted efforts to use good governance to prevent, expose and deal with corruption;
 - (e) Developing transformative leadership and enhancing relevant competencies of public servants.
- 4. Provisional agenda for the sixteenth session of the Committee.
 - 5. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifteenth session.

2015/248. International expert group meeting on the theme “Indigenous languages: preservation and revitalization (articles 13, 14 and 16 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)”

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided to authorize a three-day international expert group meeting on the theme “Indigenous languages: preservation and revitalization (articles 13, 14 and 16 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)”.

2015/249. Venue and dates of the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council decided that the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 9 to 20 May 2016.

2015/250. Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its fourteenth session and provisional agenda for its fifteenth session

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its fourteenth session;⁵²
- (b) Approved the provisional agenda for the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum, as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTEENTH SESSION
OF THE PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

- 1. Election of officers.
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
- 3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum.
- 4. Implementation of the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- 5. Discussion on the theme “Indigenous peoples: conflict, peace and resolution”.
- 6. Dialogue with indigenous peoples.
- 7. Dialogue with Member States.
- 8. Dialogue with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes.
- 9. Coordination among the three United Nations mechanisms pertaining to indigenous peoples:
 - (a) Coordination among the three United Nations mechanisms pertaining to indigenous peoples;
 - (b) Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

⁵² Ibid., *Supplement No. 23* (E/2015/43).

10. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.
11. Provisional agenda for the sixteenth session of the Permanent Forum.
12. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its fifteenth session.

2015/251. Documentation considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with regional cooperation

At its 54th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields;⁵³
- (b) Economic situation in the Economic Commission for Europe region (Europe, North America and the Commonwealth of Independent States), 2014–2015;⁵⁴
- (c) Overview of economic and social conditions in Africa, 2014–2015;⁵⁵
- (d) Summary of the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2015*;⁵⁶
- (e) Situation and outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean: 2014–2015;⁵⁷
- (f) Summary of the survey of economic and social developments in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia region, 2014–2015;⁵⁸
- (g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the joint report of the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic Commission for Africa on the activities carried out during 2013–2015 and the programme proposed for 2015–2017 related to the project for a Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar.⁵⁹

2015/252. Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development

At its 55th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Population and Development decisions 2004/2 of 26 March 2004⁶⁰ and 2005/2 of 14 April 2005⁶¹ and resolution 2006/1 of 10 May 2006⁶² on the methods of work of the Commission, and recalling General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013 entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”, in which the Assembly called for, inter alia, the harmonization and coordination of the agendas and work programmes of the functional commissions, decided:

- (a) That at its forty-ninth session, in 2016, the Commission would review the functioning of its methods of work, with a view to further enhancing the impact of the work of the Commission and its contribution to the Council;
- (b) To request the Secretariat, in consultation with Member States and the United Nations Population Fund, to prepare a note for consideration by the Commission at its forty-ninth session on ways and means to achieve the above-mentioned objectives.

⁵³ E/2015/15 and Add.1 and 2.

⁵⁴ E/2015/16.

⁵⁵ E/2015/17.

⁵⁶ E/2015/18.

⁵⁷ E/2015/19.

⁵⁸ E/2015/20.

⁵⁹ E/2015/21.

⁶⁰ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 5 (E/2004/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, 2005, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2005/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

⁶² *Ibid.*, 2006, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2006/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

2015/253. Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-eighth session and provisional agenda for its forty-ninth session

At its 55th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-eighth session;⁶³
- (b) Approved the provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Commission as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FORTY-NINTH SESSION OF
THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

- 1. Election of officers.
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Commission

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the session

Report of the Bureau of the Commission on Population and Development on its intersessional meetings

- 3. Actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda

Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes, focusing on strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

- 4. General debate on national experience in population matters: “Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda”.
- 5. General debate on the contribution of population and development issues to the Economic and Social Council theme in 2016 on “Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results”.
- 6. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends

Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2015: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018–2019: subprogramme 5, Population, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs

- 7. Review of the functioning of the methods of work of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the methods of work of the Commission

⁶³ Ibid., 2015, Supplement No. 5 (E/2015/25).

8. Provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission

9. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-ninth session.

2015/254. Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests on the international arrangement on “The forests we want: beyond 2015”

At its 55th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests:

Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests on the international arrangement on “The forests we want: beyond 2015”

We, the Ministers responsible for forests, gathered at the high-level segment of the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, have adopted the following declaration:

1. We stress the vital role and significant contribution of all types of forests and of trees outside forests in achieving sustainable development, including economic development, social development and environmental protection.
2. We also stress that over 1.6 billion people depend on forests for subsistence, livelihoods, employment and income generation, and recognize that forests provide a wide range of goods and services, which create opportunities to address many of the most pressing sustainable development challenges.
3. We underscore that forests and sustainable forest management provide multiple benefits for the lives and well-being of people across the planet, recognizing the importance of living well in harmony with nature.
4. We reaffirm our strong commitment to forests and the sustainable management of all types of forests. The sustainable management of all types of forests is vital to facilitate transformative change and address major challenges, such as poverty eradication, economic growth and sustainable livelihoods, food security and nutrition, gender equality, cultural and spiritual values, health, water, energy production, climate change mitigation and adaptation, combating desertification, the reduction of dust and sand storms, biodiversity conservation, sustainable soil and land management, watershed protection and disaster risk reduction.
5. We are deeply concerned about the continued deforestation and degradation of forests in many regions, and underscore the need to reverse this trend.
6. We stress the need to continue to promote a common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management and to continue to cooperate internationally and bilaterally to promote sustainable forest management and address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, including by strengthening forest governance through, inter alia, promoting secure land tenure rights and stakeholder participation.
7. We welcome efforts by countries and stakeholders to advance the sustainable management of all types of forests, including the role of collective action by indigenous and local communities and community-based sustainable forest management.
8. We also underscore the essential role of major groups and other stakeholders in achieving the global objectives on forests.
9. We recognize that the United Nations Forum on Forests, with its universal membership and comprehensive mandate, plays a vital role in addressing challenges and issues relating to forests in a holistic and integrated manner and in promoting policy coordination and cooperation to achieve the sustainable management of all types of forests and trees outside of forests. We encourage other forest-related forums, initiatives and processes to cooperate with the Forum to achieve sustainable forest management.
10. We recognize the value of the Forum as a policy forum for the promotion of sustainable forest management, and decide on the continuation of the international arrangement on forests, emphasizing the need to use the potential of the Forum efficiently and to contribute to cooperation and synergies.

11. We welcome forest-related developments in other forums, in particular the Rio conventions,⁶⁴ their continued contribution to sustainable forest management and the importance of cooperation and synergies between these forums and the international arrangement on forests.

12. We affirm that the international arrangement on forests beyond 2015 should play a key role in promoting the achievement of forest-related sustainable development goals and targets that will be considered for adoption at the United Nations summit in September 2015.

13. We underscore the need to accelerate efforts at all levels to achieve the objectives of the international arrangement on forests beyond 2015 and the need to establish a stronger, more effective and solid arrangement for the period 2015–2030.

14. We, the Ministers responsible for forests, commit ourselves:

(a) To implement sustainable forest management as defined in the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, taking into account different visions, approaches, models and tools, including by strengthening the implementation of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests and by taking action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels to achieve the global objectives on forests;

(b) To affirm our commitment to a stronger and more effective post-2015 international arrangement on forests, with a view to providing leadership to promote the vital significance of forests in the global sustainable development agenda, enhancing the implementation of sustainable forest management, advancing forest policy dialogue, including with major groups, and fostering collaboration, cooperation and synergies across all forest-related organizations, conventions and other processes;

(c) To promote the integration of sustainable forest management and the commitments contained in the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests into our poverty reduction strategies, national sustainable development strategies and sectoral policies, and its synergistic implementation with other forest-related initiatives;

(d) To support the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests as a strategy for improving coherence and synergy on forest issues at all levels and to promote the integration of sustainable forest management into the strategies and programmes of the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership, as appropriate;

(e) To adopt cross-sectoral approaches and foster collaboration to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in a coherent and coordinated way and to increase the valuation and recognition of the full value of forest goods and services;

(f) To review and, as needed, in accordance with national legislation, policies and priorities, improve forest-related legislation, strengthen forest law enforcement and promote good governance at all levels in order to support sustainable forest management, create an enabling environment for forest investment and combat and eradicate illegal practices, as well as to promote secure land tenure;

(g) To continue to tackle deforestation and forest degradation and to promote the trade in forest products from sustainably managed and legally harvested forests;

(h) To promote the sustainable management of all types of forests, including by:

(i) Stressing the importance of mobilizing new and additional resources from all sources for the sustainable management of all types of forests and taking steps to enhance the ability of countries to access and effectively employ the forest-related funds, ensuring better coordination across the variety of existing and emerging forest financing instruments and mechanisms and the use of such financing in line with the principles of aid effectiveness;

(ii) Continuing to enhance capacity-building, including the development, transfer and dissemination of environmentally sound technology on mutually agreed terms;

⁶⁴ The Convention on Biological Diversity (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822).

(iii) Strengthening the international arrangement on forests and its components to ensure that they are able to perform their functions effectively;

(i) To strengthen coordination and collaboration on all issues relating to forests and to promote complementarity and coherence between the international arrangement on forests and other forest-related and cross-sectoral processes;

(j) To fully engage all stakeholders in the work of the international arrangement on forests;

(k) To strengthen national monitoring, assessment and reporting in countries and the ability of the international arrangement on forests to assist countries in this endeavour with regard to achieving the objectives of the international arrangement on forests, including implementing the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, the global objectives on forests and the achievement of forest-related sustainable development goals and targets which will be considered for adoption at the United Nations summit in September 2015.

15. We invite:

(a) The third International Conference on Financing for Development to give appropriate consideration to the issue of financing for forests and sustainable forest management as one of the priorities;

(b) Forum members, financing institutions and the private sector to aim to ensure that investments and development finance take appropriate account of the role of forests in poverty eradication and sustainable development and to give financing for sustainable forest management greater priority and increased relevance, including through the recognition of the public goods and services that forests deliver;

(c) The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to consider the importance of forests and sustainable forest management in both climate change mitigation and adaptation, consistent with its mandate;

(d) The Conferences of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to consider outputs of the future international arrangement on forests, consistent with their mandates, and also invite their secretariats to continue to actively participate, as appropriate, in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests as well as to continue their involvement in the work of the Forum and the Partnership;

(e) The existing and emerging forest-related financing initiatives, including the Global Environment Facility and the Green Climate Fund, to support the implementation of sustainable forest management, consistent with their mandates;

(f) The above-mentioned forums and conferences and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda to consider the present declaration to be the contribution of the Forum to the outcomes of those events, and in this regard request the Secretary-General to officially submit this declaration to those entities.

16. We resolve to meet again to further strengthen the Forum, to review progress on the implementation of the post-2015 international arrangement on forests and to explore options to further strengthen sustainable forest management at all levels.

2015/255. Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its eleventh session

At its 55th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its eleventh session.⁶⁵

⁶⁵ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 22 and corrigendum (E/2015/42 and Corr.1).*

2015/256. Provisional calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for 2016 and 2017

At its 55th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council approved the provisional calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for 2016 and 2017.⁶⁶

2015/257. Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

At its 56th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2015, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its tenth session⁶⁷ and of the report of the Secretary-General on further strengthening the work of the Committee of Experts.⁶⁸

⁶⁶ [E/2015/L.8](#).

⁶⁷ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 25* ([E/2014/45](#)).

⁶⁸ [E/2015/51](#).