



United Nations

Commission for Social Development

**Report on the fifty-seventh session
(7 February 2018 and
11–21 February 2019)**

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Note

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Summary

The fifty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development was held on 7 February 2018 and from 11 to 21 February 2019, with the priority theme of “Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies”. The Commission also reviewed relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups, the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development and the emerging issue: “The empowerment of people affected by natural and manmade disasters to reduce inequality: addressing the differential impact on persons with disabilities, older persons and youth.” The Commission held a high-level panel discussion on the priority theme, a ministerial forum on social protection, an interactive dialogue with senior officials of the United Nations system on the priority theme and a panel discussion on the emerging issue.

The Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Chair of the NGO Committee on Social Development and a youth representative participated in the opening of the session.

In opening remarks, the Vice-President of the General Assembly highlighted that, at a time when multilateralism was facing headwinds, Member States needed to demonstrate the importance of multilateralism, as it was the best and only way to address the global challenges that stood in the way of sustainable development. She stressed that the priority of the international community was to deliver on the central goal of the 2030 Agenda for Social Development of eradicating poverty and leaving no one behind. She underscored the importance of the Commission in the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development by placing people at the centre of development.

The Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council informed the Commission that the high-level political forum would review six of the Sustainable Development Goals under the theme “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”. He noted that the Commission’s priority theme was closely aligned with that of the political forum. He highlighted that income inequality had increased in many countries and that health and education disparities remained high, and observed that a world in which extreme wealth coexisted with extreme poverty was a world of strife. To combat inequality, he stressed the Council’s commitment to addressing inequality in all its forms and to strengthening the role of the functional commissions, including the Commission for Social Development, to do the same.

The Deputy Secretary-General emphasized that the theme of the Commission highlighted a critical aspect of the 2030 Agenda, with about 1.3 billion people facing multidimensional poverty and 3 billion living without decent employment. To address inequality and challenges to social inclusion, she stressed the importance of public investment in social protection, including through innovative financing, reforming tax administration and fighting illicit financial flows. The focus of fiscal policy should be on expanding the revenue base to finance investments in education, health, infrastructure and social protection systems, not on cutting social expenditures. She welcomed the recommendation of the International Labour Organization, adopted in 2012, which advocated for guaranteeing basic levels of social protection for all.

The Chair of the NGO Committee on Social Development noted that the Commission was meeting at a time when many Governments were implementing austerity measures or turning to the private sector to fill the gaps in social services.

But it was at that time that countries had to step up and protect people, as well as promote social inclusion, by distributing resources more justly.

The representative from the youth and children major group noted that the world and its complex interdependent systems should only be navigated through an ever-expanding room of empowered stakeholders. In that regard, she said that young people were grateful for the space provided to them to speak at the Commission. She urged generational solidarity if the international community was to tackle issues of importance to the theme of the Commission, such as decent work.

During the general debate, delegations strongly underscored inequality as a defining issue of the present time. The Group of 77 and China expressed deep concern that more than 20 years after the World Summit for Social Development, progress remained slow and uneven and major gaps remained. Current trends demonstrated that income inequality not only persisted but had also increased within many countries, undermining poverty eradication efforts. Emphasis should be placed on the role of progressive taxation in favour of low-income households and public spending to support vulnerable populations. The fundamental role of international cooperation and renewed partnerships to support national efforts was highlighted. The European Union underscored that high inequality hampered growth and undermined social cohesion. The Caribbean Community noted that higher education spending had been the most important driver behind the declining trend in income inequality. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations highlighted the persistent disparities that remained in access to education, employment and health services. The African States expressed concern that development had not sufficiently benefited Africa's poorest people as the continent continued to grapple with high levels of poverty and inequality.

Member States shared their national experiences in tackling poverty and inequalities and underscored the importance of fiscal, wage and social protection policies. Delegations also highlighted the need for broader social protection systems to support families, as they were the fundamental social unit of society and played an important role in the delivery of the 2030 Agenda. Delegations also called for better global governance and the alignment of the 2030 Agenda with national needs, priorities and strategies.

During the high-level discussion on the priority theme, panellists and delegates underscored the challenges posed by rising inequality, as high inequality weakened the impact of growth on the reduction of poverty and diminished social cohesion, leading to social tensions. The need for policies to ensure equal opportunities and access to public services for all, and to support investment in human capabilities, especially for those at the bottom of income distribution, was emphasized. Progressive taxation to finance basic services, especially health, education and social protection, and increased investment in decent and sustainable work, as well as in the institutions of decent work, including in wage-determination mechanisms, were identified as crucial. The need to eliminate the gender pay gap in low-wage jobs was also highlighted as critical to reducing overall wage inequality.

During the ministerial forum on social protection, delegates discussed the opportunities and challenges facing countries in building social protection systems, and how countries could effectively expand the reach of those systems to include those left behind. Delegates also explored innovative strategies to finance social protection. The forum also highlighted the need to include persons with disabilities in social protection schemes, particularly persons with disabilities living in poverty, and to support their specific needs. Panellists and speakers further highlighted groups at risk of exclusion, including children and youth, noting challenges and barriers and

highlighting programmes to better address them, including through social protection and tailored education and skills training.

During the interactive dialogue with senior officials of the United Nations system, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) highlighted some of the most pertinent challenges facing each region. In Latin America and the Caribbean, disruptions in global economic relations, including trade tensions and rapid technological change, were worsening inequality. In the Arab region, conflicts had compounded inequality and undermined State capacities to provide social services. In the Asia and the Pacific region, inequality in income and opportunities was on the rise, leaving many people behind. To combat inequality, UNDP highlighted the importance of expanding fiscal space, broader macroeconomic policies and the adoption of integrated policies that left no one behind.

In reviewing its methods of work, the Commission underscored the commitment of Member States to strengthening the Commission for Social Development. It was noted that the Commission was the principal United Nations forum for intensive global dialogue on social development issues and emerging issues that had a strong bearing on inclusive, equitable and sustainable development, and in promoting the integrated treatment of social development issues in the United Nations system. The Commission decided to continue to consider the biennialization of its resolutions with a view to strengthening the resolution on the priority theme and to eliminating duplication and overlap and promoting complementarity. The Commission also decided to consider its priority theme each year based on the follow-up and review of the World Summit for Social Development and its linkages to the social dimensions of the 2030 Agenda. The Commission decided the priority theme for the fifty-eighth session would be “Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness” and that it would adopt a decision at the fifty-eighth session to establish the priority theme for its fifty-ninth session. Furthermore, the Commission would adopt a multi-year programme of work at its fifty-ninth session, subsequent to the review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution [70/299](#).

The Commission adopted four draft resolutions. Three of the resolutions, on future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development, social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development, and addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies, were recommended for adoption by the Economic and Social Council. The fourth resolution, on policies and programmes involving youth, was brought to the attention of the Council.

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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolutions for adoption by the Council

1. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I **Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2005/11 of 21 July 2005, 2006/18 of 26 July 2006, 2008/19 of 24 July 2008, 2010/10 of 22 July 2010, [2012/7](#) of 26 July 2012, [2014/3](#) of 12 June 2014, [2016/6](#) of 2 June 2016 and [2018/3](#) of 17 April 2018 on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution [50/161](#) of 22 December 1995 on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, the outcome of the World Summit¹ and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the Assembly,²

Recalling further General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and stressing the importance of the implementation of this ambitious new Agenda,

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”, as well as its follow-up resolution [72/305](#) of 23 July 2018,

Recalling also its resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996, by which it decided that the Commission, in fulfilling its mandate, should assist the Council in monitoring, reviewing and appraising the progress achieved and problems encountered in the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development¹ and should advise the Council thereon,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution [73/141](#) of 17 December 2018, in which the Assembly called upon the Commission to continue to address, as part of its mandate, inequality in all its dimensions, in the context of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,³ and invited the Commission to emphasize the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned,

Recognizing that the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General

¹ *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.

² General Assembly resolution [S-24/2](#), annex.

³ General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

Assembly, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,⁴ and the World Programme of Action for Youth,⁵ the objectives of the International Year of the Family and their follow-up processes and the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond,⁶ as well as the fulfilment of the obligations of States parties under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁷ and other relevant key instruments, as well as the social dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, are mutually reinforcing to the advancement of social development for all,

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

Recalling that the Council needs to consider and take steps towards the rationalization of its agenda, with a view to eliminating duplication and overlap and promoting complementarity in the consideration and negotiation of similar or related issues,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, serving as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues and in promoting the integrated treatment of social development issues in the United Nations system, continues to have the primary responsibility to review, on a periodic basis, issues related to the follow-up and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development¹ and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,² in a manner consistent with the functions and contributions of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and shall advise the Council thereon;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the Commission will contribute to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,³ within its existing mandate, by supporting the thematic reviews of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including cross-cutting issues, reflecting the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them, while engaging all relevant stakeholders and feeding into and being aligned with the cycle of the high-level political forum, according to the organizational arrangements established by the General Assembly and the Council;

3. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution [72/305](#), in which the Assembly stipulated that, inter alia, the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council shall adopt their own respective themes, aligned with the main theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council, while continuing to address issues or a theme necessary to discharge their other functions;

4. *Also recalls* that the Commission considers one priority theme at each session on the basis of the follow-up to and review of the World Summit and its

⁴ *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.

⁵ General Assembly resolution [50/81](#), annex, and resolution [62/126](#), annex.

⁶ General Assembly resolution [68/3](#).

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

linkages to the social dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, proposing an action-oriented resolution with recommendations to the Council in order to contribute to its work;

5. *Decides* that, in selecting its priority themes, the Commission shall consider, in addition to the follow-up to and review of the World Summit and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, as well as the 2030 Agenda, the programme of work of the Council and the main theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, so as to build synergies and contribute to the work of the Council;

6. *Requests* the Commission to adopt a multi-year programme of work, subsequent to the review of General Assembly resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, when considering the future organization and methods of work of the Commission at its fifty-ninth session, to allow for predictability and adequate time for preparation;

7. *Decides* that the priority theme for the fifty-eighth session, which shall allow the Commission to contribute to the work of the Council, will be “Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness”;

8. *Also decides* to adopt a decision at the fifty-eighth session to establish the priority theme for its fifty-ninth session, in accordance with the provisions of the present resolution;

9. *Invites* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the relevant specialized agencies, regional commissions, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the international financial institutions to present their relevant activities and reports, which may contribute to the advancement of the priority theme, including by participating in interactive dialogues with Member States and relevant stakeholders;

10. *Invites* 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, including by addressing the implementation of, follow-up to and review of the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda;

11. *Decides* to promote efficiency in its work through the biennialization of the resolutions of the Commission, with a view to strengthening the resolution on the priority theme, eliminating duplication and overlap and promoting complementarity in the consideration and negotiation of similar or related issues between the Council and the General Assembly;

12. *Encourages* non-governmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors, to participate, to the maximum extent possible, in line with Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, in the work of the Commission and in the monitoring and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action of the World Summit and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

13. *Decides* that the Commission shall keep its methods of work under review, including as related to the timing and number of working days of its sessions, at its fifty-ninth session in order to adjust, as appropriate, to the work of the Council, in line with the outcome of the General Assembly review of the strengthening of the Council and the process of repositioning the United Nations development system.

Draft resolution II 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 1995,¹ 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 2000,² the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,³ and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,⁴ reaffirming the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002,⁵

Recognizing the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit with regard to meeting the special needs of Africa 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 2008,⁶ and noting the relevant decisions of African Union summits related to the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

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

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

Reaffirming further Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, adopted 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, and the first 10-year implementation plan (2014–2023) of Agenda 2063, in which flagship projects, priority areas and policy measures to support the implementation of the continental development framework were outlined and form the strategic framework for Africa's inclusive growth and sustainable development and optimization of the use of the continent's resources for the benefit of all its people,

¹ *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.

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

³ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

⁵ General Assembly resolution 57/2.

⁶ General Assembly resolution 63/1.

Recalling the fourth session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Social Development, on the theme “Strengthening the African family for inclusive development in Africa”, held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 May 2014, and the first session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment, on the theme “Social protection for inclusive development”, held in Addis Ababa from 20 to 24 April 2015, recalling in this regard the African Common Position on Social Integration and the Social Policy Framework for Africa, 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 noting the adoption of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa in January 2016,

Acknowledging the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development, both of which are integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieving an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens, representing a dynamic force in the international arena, and underscoring in this regard the importance of a coherent and coordinated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution [71/254](#) of 23 December 2016, entitled “Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa’s Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027”, and welcoming in this regard the signing on 27 January 2018 of the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to promote the integrated and coordinated implementation, monitoring and reporting of both Agendas through joint activities and programmes,

Acknowledging that the attainment of the seven aspirations of Agenda 2063 is critical to ensuring a high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all citizens of Africa through income security, jobs and decent work, poverty and hunger eradication, inequality reduction, social security and protection floors, particularly for persons with disabilities, modern, affordable and liveable habitats and quality basic services, healthy and nourished citizens with access to health care, environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities, full gender equality in all spheres of life and engaged and empowered youth and children,

Recalling 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 aimed at promoting economic and social development and reducing poverty on the continent through the implementation of integrated regional infrastructure networks,

Recalling also the ministerial declaration of the meeting of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration, held in Addis Ababa on 26 and 27 October 2017, and recalling further the Algiers Declaration on Investment in Employment and Social Security for Harnessing the Demographic Dividend of the second session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment, held in Algiers from 24 to 28 April 2017,

Noting with concern the continued high prevalence of child, early and forced marriage, as well as violence and other harmful practices against children, including female genital mutilation, and reaffirming in this regard the Africa-wide campaign to end child marriage in Africa, launched at the fourth session of the African Union

Conference of Ministers of Social Development, held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 May 2014, the Southern African Development Community Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage and the endorsement by the Pan-African Parliament in August 2016 of a ban on female genital mutilation,

Recognizing that, after the latest global financial crisis, the global economy is still facing difficult macroeconomic conditions, low commodity prices, subdued trade growth and volatile capital flows, that, notwithstanding the impact of the financial crisis, financial flows and the share of developing countries in world trade have continued to increase, that these advances have contributed to a substantial reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty, and that, despite these gains, many countries, particularly developing countries, still face considerable challenges and some have fallen further behind, emphasizing that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development programme,⁷ 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 also that investments in people, especially in their social protection, health-inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all, are essential to enhancing productivity in all sectors, including agriculture, and thereby key to sustainable and equitable growth and poverty reduction, through increasing decent job creation and employability opportunities for all, especially for women and youth, improving food security and nutrition and building resilience,

Recognizing further that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is crucial and in this regard, recalling the adoption, at the second ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union, of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa in Maputo on 11 July 2003 and the African Women's Decade (2010–2020) and commending the adoption of the African Union Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment at the third session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, held in Addis Ababa from 7 to 11 May 2018,

Recognizing that the lack of access to safe 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 36 countries, 30 of which are in Africa, 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 and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, bearing in mind also the need for

⁷ [A/57/304](#), annex.

their development efforts to be supported by the international community and an enabling international economic environment, reiterating the need for the international community to implement all commitments regarding the economic and social development of Africa, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conferences on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,⁸

Underscoring that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underscored by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth, supported by an enabling environment at all levels,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁹
2. *Welcomes* the progress made by African Governments in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development⁷ 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 progress that has been achieved in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, urges African States that have not yet done so to consider joining the Mechanism process, and encourages further strengthening of the Mechanism process for its efficient performance;
4. *Reaffirms* the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;
5. *Takes note* of the development of the monitoring and evaluation framework for the first 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063 by Africa's regional economic communities, the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and the African Symposium on Statistical Development, as well as the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa, both of which have fostered convergence in the monitoring and evaluation of the first 10-year implementation plan and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as a unified implementation and monitoring plan for Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and notes the incorporation of the first 10-year implementation plan into national planning frameworks by 35 countries;
6. *Also takes note* of the decision of the Assembly of the African Union at its thirty-first ordinary session, held in Nouakchott on 1 and 2 July 2018, to transform the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership into the African Union Development Agency, which will be the implementing mechanism for the African Union Agenda 2063 development strategy;

⁸ 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; and General Assembly resolution 63/239, annex, and resolution 69/313, annex.

⁹ E/CN.5/2019/2.

7. *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;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the African Union Commission, which have resulted in the launch of national campaigns to end child marriage in 24 countries, the adoption of the African Common Position on the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage in Africa and the launching, in partnership with the United Nations, of the African Union continental campaign to end female genital mutilation, on the margins of the thirty-second ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union, held in February 2019 in Addis Ababa;

9. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the launch on 24 August 2018 in Addis Ababa, by the African Union Commission, in collaboration with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and the International Telecommunication Union, of the African Girls Can Code Initiative (2018–2022) which is aimed at enhancing the mastering of information and communications technology for girls and women and, therefore, increasing their contribution to Africa's innovation in that sector;

10. *Recognizes* the progress that has been made in the implementation of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa in support of regional and continental integration with a focus on the movement of people and goods (the MoveAfrica initiative), through the "traffic light system", which has been operationalized at four pilot "one-stop border posts";

11. *Recalls* the African Union Road Map on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend and the first five-year priority programme on employment, poverty eradication and inclusive development 2017, and welcomes the declaration by the African Union of the period from 2018 to 2027 as the African Decade for Technical, Professional and Entrepreneurial Training and Youth Employment, with a focus on the creation of decent jobs for youth and women, aimed at achieving more inclusive growth and sustainable poverty eradication;

12. *Welcomes* the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, at its thirty-first ordinary session, to declare 2019 as the "Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa";

13. *Urges* all countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,¹⁰ encourages States parties to review its implementation, committing to making the Convention an effective instrument for deterring, detecting, preventing and countering corruption and bribery, prosecuting those involved in corrupt activities and recovering and returning stolen assets to their country of origin, as appropriate, encourages the international community to develop good practices on asset return, expresses support for the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations and the World Bank and other international initiatives that support the recovery of stolen assets, urges the updating and ratification of regional conventions against corruption, and strives to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows;

14. *Calls upon* African Governments to ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the

¹⁰ United Nations *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

Rights of Older Persons in Africa, to demonstrate the commitment of Member States to the dignity, empowerment and the rights of persons with disabilities and older persons across the continent;

15. *Notes* that health is a precondition, an indicator and an outcome of sustainable development and that, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,³ robust efforts are needed to integrate additional health issues into a broad health and development agenda, particularly the extension of universal health coverage, and in this regard 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 and curb the outbreak of major diseases;

16. *Takes note with appreciation of* the revised Africa Health Strategy for the period 2016–2030, which was endorsed by the Assembly of the African Union in 2016, with the main objectives of strengthening health systems, improving performance, increasing investments in health, improving equity and addressing social determinants of health to reduce priority disease burdens by 2030 and helping Member States to more effectively manage the risks of disasters in a more systematic manner;

17. *Urges* African Governments to fast-track the implementation of the Africa Health Strategy, which provides umbrella guidance for the development of the African Regional Nutrition Strategy, the Maputo Plan of Action 2016–2030 for the Operationalization of the Continental Policy Framework for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa and the Catalytic Framework to end AIDS and Tuberculosis and Eliminate Malaria in Africa by 2030, and to progressively achieve ambitious targets, a business case and strategic priorities to end the three diseases as a public health threat by 2030;

18. *Stresses* the importance of improving maternal and child health, and in this regard recalls the declaration of the African Union summit on maternal, infant and child health and development, welcomes the fact that 50 African countries have since integrated the objectives of the Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal, Newborn and Child Mortality in Africa into their national strategies, and urges the pursuit and implementation of commitments to improve maternal and child health;

19. *Takes note of* the declaration of the special summit of the African Union on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja from 12 to 16 July 2013, on the progress made in implementing the Abuja actions towards the elimination of HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa by 2030, also takes note of the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, adopted on 8 June 2016 at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS,¹¹ and reaffirms the resolve to provide assistance for prevention, treatment and care, with the aim of ensuring an Africa free of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, by addressing the needs of all, in particular those of women, children and young people, and the urgent need to significantly scale up efforts towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, treatment, care and support in African countries, to accelerate and intensify efforts to expand access to affordable and quality medicines in Africa, including antiretroviral drugs, by encouraging pharmaceutical companies to make drugs available, and to ensure strengthened global partnership and increased bilateral and multilateral assistance, where possible on a grant basis, to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa through the strengthening of health systems;

¹¹ General Assembly resolution 70/266, annex.

20. *Also takes note* of the decision of the African Union to extend the African Union Road Map on Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Response in Africa from 2016 to 2020 so as to achieve full implementation, notes the revitalization of AIDS Watch Africa as an African high-level platform from which to advocate action, accountability and resource mobilization for the response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa, and requests, as appropriate, and in line with relevant international obligations, development partners and the United Nations system to support the efforts of African countries and organizations to reach the main objectives put forward in the Road Map, including achieving diversified sustainable financing, strengthening regulatory harmonization and local pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity and enhancing leadership and governance of the responses;

21. *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 by providing support for the efforts to prevent, protect against and combat outbreaks of disease, including outbreaks 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;

22. *Encourages* Member States to continue to provide 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;

23. *Notes* the strategy of the African Ministers' Council on Water for the period 2018–2030, launched for the achievement of the African Water Vision 2025, Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals;

24. *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 Sustainable Development Goals;

25. *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;

26. *Further emphasizes* that the 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 productive employment creation and decent work for all, to promote quality 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;

27. *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;

28. *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 inclusive, equitable and quality education and health in order to promote inclusive growth, generate full and productive employment and decent work for all and reduce poverty;

29. *Emphasizes* that economic development, including employment-intensive resource-based industrial development, with due regard to the sustainable management and use of natural resources, 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 Sustainable Development Goals;

30. *Encourages* African countries to continue to foster political stability, promote peace and security and strengthen the governance, policy and institutional environment in order to enhance the prospects for inclusive and sustainable development, and to develop an enabling environment for the private sector to contribute to sustainable economic transformation and the creation of productive employment and decent work for all;

31. *Stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty hinge on the ability and readiness of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance commitments and use such assistance effectively and facilitate the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, and also stresses that the resolution of unsustainable debt situations is critical for heavily indebted poor countries, while remittances have become a significant source of income and finance for receiving economies and their contribution to the achievement of sustainable development;

32. *Expresses concern* that, in 2017, ODA fell by 0.6 per cent compared with 2016, while bilateral (country-to-country) aid to least developed countries rose by 4 per cent, after remaining flat for the previous six years, and that ODA was, on average, 0.31 per cent of the aggregate donor gross national income in 2014, below the commitment of 0.7 per cent, reiterates that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial and that, for many least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, ODA remains the largest source of external financing, and therefore emphasizes the importance of the commitments made by many countries to achieve the national target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and calls upon developed countries to deliver on their commitments in relation to ODA;

33. *Recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in achieving sustainable development and that, in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, efforts to address ongoing challenges should be strengthened through the exchange of experiences, improved coordination and better and focused support of the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders, and therefore requests those stakeholders to ensure that the diverse and specific development needs of middle-income countries are appropriately considered and addressed, in a tailored fashion, in their relevant strategies and policies, with a view to promoting a coherent and comprehensive approach towards individual countries, while also acknowledging

that official development assistance and other concessional finance is still important for a number of these countries and has a role to play for targeted results, taking into account the specific needs of these countries;

34. *Also recognizes* that, while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal, and calls upon the international community to continue to support the resolution of challenges faced by developing countries, especially the least developed countries, including in Africa, to independently achieving sustainable development;

35. *Further 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;

36. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the African Union to realign the clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa¹² to deal with the major themes of both Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda, and invites development partners, including the United Nations system, to continue to support the Mechanism in achieving its objectives, including through the allocation of the financing necessary to support the implementation of its activities;

37. *Encourages* African countries to intensify their efforts to strengthen the capacity of subnational and national statistical systems in order to produce reliable and timely statistics and indicators for the monitoring of national development policies and strategies and of the implementation of commitments for the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard urges donor countries and organizations, including the United Nations system, and the international and regional statistical communities to support African countries in strengthening statistical capacity in support of development;

38. *Takes note* of initiatives such as the *African Innovation Outlook* report, which provides insight and analysis of selected key performance indicators related to science and technology innovation in general, as well as the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024, and research and development and innovation, with a focus on national statistical offices and science granting councils in 21 countries, with the aim of raising awareness of indicators related to science, technology and innovation and research and development and equipping the countries with the requisite skills for developing and implementing systems for tracking these indicators;

39. *Underlines* the importance for African Governments to build the productive capacity of sustainable 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 the access of 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

¹² The nine clusters pertain to (a) sustainable and inclusive economic growth, industry, trade, agriculture and agro-processing, and regional integration; (b) infrastructure development; (c) human capital development, health, nutrition, science, technology and innovation; (d) labour, employment creation, social protection, migration and mobility; (e) gender equality, women and youth empowerment; (f) humanitarian matters and disaster risk management; (g) environment, urbanization and population; (h) advocacy, information, communications and culture; and (i) governance, peace and security.

small and medium-sized enterprises that contribute to job growth and increase incomes along the agricultural value stream;

40. *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;

41. *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;

42. *Welcomes* progress made in addressing issues such as food security through the adoption of a resolution on the development of a model law on food security and nutrition in Africa in October 2018 by the Pan-African Parliament, and the development of a technical cooperation project to incorporate indigenous crops into the African nutritious food basket for improved food security and nutrition, and notes the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa;

43. *Reaffirms* that among the objectives of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027), proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution [72/233](#) of 20 December 2017, are maintenance of the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade and support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, for the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and their objective of leaving no one behind;

44. *Urges* African countries to pay close attention to inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth capable of being employment intensive, including through employment-intensive investment programmes, aimed at reducing inequalities, increasing productive employment, generating decent work for all, particularly those who are vulnerable, including women and young people, and improving real per capita incomes in both rural and urban areas;

45. *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 adequate 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 policy coherence, coordination and implementation, as well as planning, management and monitoring capacities;

46. *Also emphasizes* the importance of increasing international cooperation to improve the quality of and access to education, including efforts to realize girls' right to education, in particular for African countries, including through building and strengthening education-related infrastructure and increasing investment in education;

47. *Takes note* of continental initiatives such as the African Union International Centre for Girls' and Women's Education in Africa, which implemented activities in line with its strategic plan for the period 2018–2020 comprising four axes, namely a legal framework for the rights of girls to education, gender-sensitive teaching and learning environments, technical and vocational education and training focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and advocacy and communication;

48. *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 quality education, skills training and entrepreneurship 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;

49. *Reaffirms* the commitment by the General Assembly to bridging digital and knowledge divides, recognizes that its approach must be multidimensional and include an evolving understanding of what constitutes access, emphasizing the quality of that access, and acknowledges that speed, stability, affordability, language, local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities are now core elements of the quality of such access and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development;

50. *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 Sustainable Development Goals;

51. *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, in collaboration with the United Nations system, in order to realize a demographic dividend, while adopting an inclusive results-based approach to development planning and implementation in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

52. *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;

53. *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 sustainable 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;

54. *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;

55. *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, which can serve as a guideline for social investment;

56. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the African Union and its New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to continue 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;

57. *Emphasizes* the importance for the cluster working on advocacy and communication to continue to muster international support for the New Partnership, and urges 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;

58. *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;

59. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership and give due consideration to Agenda 2063 of the African Union at its fifty-eighth session;

60. *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 resolution [72/310](#) of 10 September 2018 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-eighth session, an action-oriented report with recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of the work of United Nations bodies in regard to the social dimensions of the New Partnership, Agenda 2063 and its links with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account current processes related to social development in Africa.

Draft resolution III

Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution [2018/3](#) of 17 April 2018, in which it decided that the priority theme of the 2019 session of the Commission for Social Development would be “Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies”,

Recalling also the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development¹ and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session² constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels, and encouraging the continued global dialogue on social development issues,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, including adopting policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieving greater equality, and its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development,

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

Reaffirming the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa’s Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

Affirming its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into a reduction in inequalities, the eradication of poverty and the commitment to strategies and policies that are aimed at promoting full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all, affirming also that these strategies and policies should constitute fundamental components of relevant national and international policies and national development strategies, and noting in this regard

¹ *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.

² General Assembly resolution [S-24/2](#), annex.

that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization has an important role to play in achieving the objective of social protection and the elimination of inequalities, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,³

Reaffirming that empowerment, participation and social protection are essential for social development and that sustainable development requires the meaningful involvement and active participation of all, particularly those who are vulnerable or marginalized, with due regard to the need for the full and equal participation of women and girls, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities,

Concerned at the global nature of inequality, underlining the fact that growing inequality has an adverse impact on sustainable development and that therefore addressing inequality in all its dimensions is an ethical, social, political, environmental and economic imperative of all humankind, and in this regard recognizing that there is a need to better understand the multidimensional nature of development and inequality, acknowledging the significant role that the United Nations system has played and should continue to play in this regard,

Recognizing that coordinated health, social and economic policies are needed to address the health of the most vulnerable and marginalized, who are often the most exposed to violence, discrimination, stigmatization, social exclusion and health risk factors, owing mostly to their living conditions, poor health literacy and inequality in access to health care and other relevant services,

Taking note of the Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, launched at the General Assembly in September 2016, in order to highlight the commitments of the participants and the need to achieve universal social protection, as nationally appropriate,

Recognizing the importance of supporting countries in their efforts to address inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies and through empowering people in vulnerable situations, including women, children and young people, indigenous peoples, members of local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and people of African descent,

Noting with concern that major gaps remain and that obstacles persist in fulfilling the commitments made at the World Summit for Social Development, and recognizing that, although income inequality among countries remains at a high level, it has been declining, while trends in income inequality within countries present a mixed picture, with many countries experiencing a significant rise in recent decades and others having successfully reduced both income and non-income inequalities, including inequality in opportunity and access to quality education, health care, social protection, adequate and affordable housing, productive assets, financial services, information and communications technology and political representation, although their levels remain high,

Emphasizing that addressing inequality in all its dimensions is essential to making further progress in the eradication of poverty, and recognizing that high levels of inequality negatively affect consumption and inclusive economic growth and its eradication, as people in lower-income households are unable to stay healthy, thereby lowering labour productivity, affecting the ability of households to develop physical and human capital, reducing social mobility, making it more difficult to break the

³ A/63/538-E/2009/4, annex.

transmission of intergenerational poverty and trapping a large segment of the population in poverty,

Recognizing that nationally appropriate social protection systems can make a critical contribution to the realization of human rights for all, in particular for those who are trapped in poverty and those who are vulnerable or marginalized and subject to discrimination, and that promoting universal access to social services and providing nationally appropriate social protection floors can contribute to addressing and reducing poverty, inequality and social exclusion and promoting inclusive economic growth,

Noting with particular concern that, although social protection has emerged as one of the key policy instruments for reducing inequality, eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions and promoting inclusive growth, significant coverage gaps remain, and recognizing that investing in child, old-age, disability and family benefits could directly reduce poverty rates, have a wider positive impact on nutrition, health and education, as well as on local economic development and employment, and could reduce the disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work for women, resulting in lower levels of poverty and vulnerability in the medium and longer term,

Recognizing that social protection measures can improve living conditions of the poor in the short term, in particular in the light of their vulnerability to economic downturns, natural disasters and humanitarian crises, and can also contribute to aggregate demand, encouraging public and private investment and thereby increasing long-term investment and addressing short-term vulnerabilities in a mutually reinforcing manner,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁴
2. *Emphasizes* that the international community, through the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including of the World Summit for Social Development¹ and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,² the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁵ and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,⁶ has reinforced the urgency of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, combating inequality within and among countries, protecting the environment, creating sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and fostering social inclusion within the United Nations development agenda;
3. *Stresses* that the benefits of economic growth should be inclusive and distributed more equitably and that, in order to close the gap in inequality and avoid any further deepening of inequality, comprehensive social policies and programmes, including appropriate social transfer and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;
4. *Invites* the international community to continue its efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches and, in view of the negative impact of inequality, to simultaneously reduce poverty and inequality in all its dimensions, including gender inequality, and emphasizes the importance of structural transformation through effective policies that promote sustainable industrialization and agriculture which support inclusive and sustainable economic development and improve human well-being for all, including by investing in quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure;

⁴ E/CN.5/2019/3.

⁵ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

⁶ General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

5. *Encourages* Governments, the international community and other relevant actors, including workers' and employer's organizations, as applicable, to ensure equal opportunity, reduce inequalities of outcome and combat discrimination and social exclusion, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action;

6. *Encourages* Member States to promote affordable and equitable access to basic services, in particular quality formal and non-formal education, at all levels, including programmes that promote equality and inclusion through the affirmation of the fundamental dignity of the human person, and health care, including through the acceleration of the transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, as well as access to affordable housing, nutrition and food, employment and decent work, information and communications technology and infrastructure, through advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

7. *Acknowledges* that limited fiscal resources are a challenge to expanding social protection to all, and encourages Member States to enhance the role of fiscal policies in addressing inequalities of opportunities and outcomes, to promote social inclusion by expanding and sustaining fiscal space, including through mobilizing revenue by improving the fairness, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of tax systems, including by broadening the tax base, increasing tax progressivity and continuing efforts to integrate the informal sector into the formal economy, in line with national circumstances, combating tax evasion and illicit financial flows, to diversify revenue sources by reducing volatility and enhancing sustained growth, to strengthen international support for these and to explore coherent funding modalities to mobilize additional resources, building on country-led experiences;

8. *Highlights* the importance of sound public finance management, including debt management, to help to address poverty and income inequality by ensuring the timely delivery of priority social programmes and projects, including through the implementation of expenditure management reforms that will streamline the procurement process and further strengthen the planning-programming-budgeting links;

9. *Underscores* the importance of carefully choosing options for expanding fiscal space by assessing the possible adverse impact of fiscal consolidations through spending cuts on inequality, poverty and social inclusion, and emphasizes the need to carefully design fiscal policy, in particular tax and transfers systems, to achieve equity, taking into consideration potentially harmful indirect effects, so that people living in poverty, the working poor and the near poor do not end up as net payers;

10. *Stresses* the critical role of public spending and sound public finances in ensuring universal health coverage, access to quality health care and social protection for all, as nationally appropriate, throughout the life cycle, and inclusive and equitable access to quality education at all levels, including early childhood education and education about human dignity and lifelong learning to help to develop human capital, childcare services and facilities and family-oriented programmes, in order to achieve equity of opportunities for all and address disparities in human capital, and invites Governments to increase investment to expand the public provision of such basic services and increase public expenditure on infrastructure, in particular in rural areas;

11. *Urges* Member States to ensure active labour market policies, in order to provide decent work for all people living in poverty and a fair share for workers of gains from increased productivity, resulting from structural transformation and trade, and to accelerate efforts to eliminate barriers to social inclusion and to promote full participation in all aspects of society by people living in poverty and in vulnerable situations, including women, children, young people, indigenous peoples, local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees, internally

displaced persons, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and people of African descent;

12. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting labour market policies that strengthen institutions and provide adequate labour protection to all workers, especially the most disadvantaged, including through minimum wage policies, while taking into account the role of workers' and employer's organizations, as applicable, as part of policies to boost income growth for the vast majority of workers, taking into consideration the specific circumstances of each country;

13. *Encourages* Member States to implement policies that support the full and productive participation of women in the labour market, including women with disabilities, that promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, childcare facilities, the reconciliation of family and professional life, and the sharing of responsibilities between parents, and that also promote meaningful participation in the economy and in decision-making processes at all levels;

14. *Invites* Member States to promote the use of mechanisms of social dialogue, including collective bargaining and engagement with workers' and employer's organizations, where appropriate, and invites policymakers to address the disadvantages faced by women, young people, older workers, persons with disabilities, migrant workers and temporary and part-time workers in employment, by considering measures such as improving access to quality secondary and tertiary education to build human capital and upgrade skills over the longer term, helping young people to enter the labour force and the unemployed to re-enter the labour market by providing employment services, supporting the removal of barriers to hiring and retaining older workers and workers with disabilities, avoiding wage penalties based on occupational status for temporary and part-time workers, improving their conditions of work, including action to prevent and respond to violence in the workplace, and considering setting minimum wages;

15. *Invites* Governments to build nationally appropriate social protection systems for all, including social protection floors, with due regard to fiscal sustainability, provide coverage throughout the life cycle, guarantee access to essential goods and services and reduce unequal opportunities for persons who are socially excluded, emphasizes that the design of social protection systems should also ensure that benefits do not create work disincentives and that they promote gender equality, and, given that investment in children has multiple long-term benefits, also invites Governments to invest in child-sensitive social protection programmes;

16. *Recognizes* the important role that families can play in combating social exclusion, and highlights the importance of investing in inclusive and responsive family-oriented policies and programmes in areas such as education, training, decent work, work-family balance, health care, social services, intergenerational relationships and solidarity and targeted cash transfers for vulnerable families, in order to reduce inequality and promote the well-being of all persons of all ages, as well as to contribute to better outcomes for children and other vulnerable family members in vulnerable situations and help to break the intergenerational transfer of poverty;

17. *Encourages* Member States to provide universal age, disability and gender-sensitive social protection systems, which are key to ensuring poverty reduction, including, as appropriate, targeted cash transfers for families in vulnerable situations, such as when headed by a single parent, in particular those headed by women, and which are most effective in reducing poverty when accompanied by other measures, such as providing access to basic services, high-quality education and health services;

18. *Urges* Member States to address inequities in health status and access to health systems and to continue their efforts to reduce the burden of disease and improve the health and well-being of their people by addressing the social determinants of health, promoting universal health coverage, increasing the coverage of child immunization, expanding HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis prevention, diagnosis and treatment programmes, supporting community-based service delivery, providing safe drinking water and sanitation and improving nutrition;

19. *Also urges* Member States, in accordance with national circumstances, to establish as quickly as possible and maintain the social protection floors that comprise basic social security, so that all those in need have access to essential health care, including maternity, newborn, child, long-term and palliative care, that meets the criteria of availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality, and to basic income security for children and basic income security for persons of active age who are unable to earn sufficient income, in particular in cases of sickness, unemployment, maternity and disability, inter alia, in the context of enabling employment, and basic income security for older persons, as set out in the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202) of the International Labour Organization;

20. *Encourages* Member States, when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating social protection programmes, to ensure gender, age and disability mainstreaming, promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and also ensure the promotion and protection of all human rights, in accordance with their obligations under international human rights law, throughout the process;

21. *Recognizes* the importance of providing social protection schemes for the formal and informal economy as instruments for achieving equity, inclusion and the stability and cohesion of societies, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

22. *Stresses* the need to better coordinate social protection policies and measures with poverty reduction programmes and other social policies to avoid excluding people in informal or precarious jobs;

23. *Invites* Member States, in the context of their national sustainable development frameworks and associated integrated financing frameworks, and within their economic and fiscal capacities, to formulate and implement national strategies to extend to all social security and essential social services that are responsive to shocks, sustainable in the long run and have a focus on those furthest below the poverty line and negatively affected by climate change and natural and human-made disasters;

24. *Reaffirms* the commitment to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts and recognizes that these will make a crucial contribution to progress across all of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease, to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full and equal participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, to improve their access to and remove barriers from all resources needed for the full exercise of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including promoting the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, to ensure equal access to quality education for women and girls to strengthen their economic independence, and to improve access to equal opportunities with men and boys in employment, leadership and decision-making at all levels, which is essential for the reduction in inequalities and the empowerment of women and girls;

25. *Urges* Member States to mainstream, as appropriate, a gender, age and disability perspective into all relevant national and local institutions, including labour, economic and financial government agencies, in order to ensure that national planning, decision-making, policy formulation and implementation, programming and budgeting processes and institutional structures contribute to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, and develop and strengthen methodologies for the monitoring and evaluation of investment for equitable outcomes, as appropriate;

26. *Reaffirms* the rights of persons with disabilities and the commitment to achieving their full and equal participation in all parts of society, including through the mainstreaming of a disability perspective into all development efforts, and recognizes that such mainstreaming will make a crucial contribution to progress in achieving all of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease, and that social integration and economic policies should be aimed at reducing inequalities and promoting access to basic social services, education, employment and health-care services for all, and should actively work to eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, in particular persons with disabilities, and address the potential challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

27. *Encourages* Member States to continue to enact inclusive and responsive family-oriented policies and to confront social exclusion, recognizing the multidimensional aspects of social exclusion, focusing on inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning for all, health and well-being for all at all ages, full and productive employment, decent work, social security, livelihoods and social cohesion, including through gender- and age-sensitive social protection systems and measures, such as child allowances for parents and pension benefits for older persons, and to ensure that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of all family members are respected;

28. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen laws and regulatory frameworks that promote the reconciliation and sharing of work and family responsibilities for women and men, including by designing, implementing and promoting family-responsive legislation, policies and services, such as parental and other leave schemes, increased flexibility in working arrangements, support for breastfeeding mothers, development of infrastructure and technology, and the provision of services, including affordable, accessible and quality childcare and care facilities for children and other dependants, and promoting men's equitable responsibilities with respect to household work as fathers and caregivers, which create an enabling environment for women's economic empowerment;

29. *Acknowledges* that investment in human capital and social protection has been proved to be effective in reducing poverty and inequality, and invites Member States to mobilize resources, including through public-private partnerships, to secure adequate levels of social expenditure necessary for expanding coverage towards universal access to food and nutrition, health, education, innovation, new technologies and basic social protection, considering innovative sources of financing as applicable, and to address the issues of illicit financial flows and corruption;

30. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations and small and medium-sized businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the

achievement of social development goals, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to promote the exchange of information and knowledge on decent work and social protection for all and job creation, including decent work initiatives and related skills, and to facilitate the integration of relevant data into national economic and employment policies;

31. *Recognizes* that domestic resources mobilization, underscored by the principle of national ownership and supplemented by international assistance, as appropriate, will be critical to realizing sustainable development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

32. *Reaffirms* the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and recognizes the need to take steps to significantly increase investment to close resource gaps, including through the mobilization of financial resources from all sources, including public, private, domestic and international resource mobilization and allocation;

33. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

34. *Encourages* developed countries to implement their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries;

35. *Welcomes* the contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development, and reaffirms that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, and commits itself to strengthening South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

36. *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 Sustainable 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 and mutual accountability;

37. *Recognizes* that private business activity, entrepreneurship, investment and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive economic growth and job creation and that private international capital flows, in particular foreign direct investment, along with a stable international financial system, are vital complements to national development efforts;

38. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to continue to promote the exchange of information on policies and measures that successfully reduce inequality in all its dimensions and address challenges to social inclusion;

39. *Also invites* all relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to share good practices relating to programmes and policies that address inequalities and challenges to social inclusion, with the aim of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

B. Draft decision for adoption by the Council

2. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-seventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-eighth session

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-seventh session;¹

(b) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission as set out below:

Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission

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: affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness

- (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:
 - (i) Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond;²
 - (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth;
 - (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;
 - (iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;

¹ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 6 (E/2019/26).

² General Assembly resolution 68/3.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes

Report of the Secretary-General on the further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

(c) Emerging issues (to be determined).

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on emerging issues

4. Programme questions and other matters.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme plan for 2021

5. Provisional agenda for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission.
6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-eighth session.

C. Decision calling for action by the Council

3. Pursuant to the following decision, adopted by the Commission, the Economic and Social Council is requested to confirm the nomination of five candidates to the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development:

Decision 57/101

Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

1. The Commission decided to nominate Hanif Hassan Ali Al Qassim, Ha-Joon Chang, Shalini Randeria and Imraan Valodia for a four-year term beginning after confirmation by the Economic and Social Council and on a date no sooner than on 1 July 2019 and expiring on 30 June 2023.
2. The Commission also decided to nominate Saraswathi Menon for an additional two-year term beginning on a date after confirmation by the Economic and Social Council and no sooner than on 1 July 2019 and expiring on 30 June 2021.

D. Resolution and decision brought to the attention of the Council

4. The following resolution adopted by the Commission is brought to the attention of the Council:

Resolution 57/1

Policies and programmes involving youth

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [50/81](#) of 14 December 1995 and resolution [62/126](#) of 18 December 2007, by which the Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth, as contained in the annexes thereto, and acknowledging that the Programme of Action provides Member States with a useful policy framework and practical guidelines for improving the situation of youth,

Recalling also the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, 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,

Recalling further the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, adopted at the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in 1998,¹ and the need for a meaningful assessment of the progress made in youth development and the challenges that remain,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which for the first time the Assembly recognized children and youth as agents of change,

Emphasizing the important role that the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth has played in addressing the needs of youth, as well as, inter alia, acting as a harmonizer with different United Nations entities, Governments, civil society, youth

¹ [A/53/378](#), annex I.

organizations, academia and media towards enhancing, empowering and strengthening the position of young people within and outside of the United Nations system,

Reiterating that all 15 priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth are interrelated and mutually reinforcing,

Stressing that the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and the achievement of all of the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, require the full and effective participation of youth, youth-led and youth-focused organizations and other civil society organizations at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Recalling the proposed set of indicators for the World Programme of Action for Youth, contained in the report of the Secretary-General,² to assist Member States in assessing the implementation of the World Programme of Action and thus the evolution of the situation of youth,

Noting the launch by the Secretary-General, in September 2018, of Youth 2030: The United Nations Youth Strategy, to address the needs of youth and to fulfil their potential as agents of change, as well as of the Generation Unlimited global partnership, which is aimed at ensuring that, by 2030, every young person has the opportunity to be in education, learning, training or employment,

Acknowledging the important contributions made by the youth forum of the Economic and Social Council, held annually, to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing that the youth forum serves as a platform for young people to share their vision and contribute to, inter alia, the high-level political forum on sustainable development,

Acknowledging also the positive contribution of youth, as agents and beneficiaries of development, to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as to the general well-being, progress and diversity of society, as a way of contributing to a progressively fairer distribution of opportunities for youth, which will constitute a step forward to economic development, social justice, social integration and equity,

Stressing that significant disparities persist in access to services, including quality services, and benefits, which could constitute barriers to equal opportunities, and recognizing that nationally appropriate social protection systems, including floors and policies that promote employment, can contribute to reducing poverty and inequality and can empower youth, as such systems contribute to their income security,

Stressing also that high rates of youth unemployment persist, as do high rates of underemployment, vulnerable employment and informal employment, leaving many young people in situations of working poverty or in jobs that have limited access to social protection and that do not provide adequate labour standards,

Emphasizing that education, both formal and non-formal, and training promote equity and social inclusion, and recalling in that sense the need to substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship and to help ensure, by 2030, that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy, as well as to substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training,

² E/CN.5/2013/8.

Taking note of the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth,

Acknowledging the important link between migration and development, recognizing that migration brings both opportunities and challenges to countries of origin, transit and destination, to migrants and to the global community, and recognizing the responsibility of States to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants effectively, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women, young people and children,

Recognizing the important and positive contribution of youth in efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security,

Stressing that increased coordination and collaboration among United Nations entities and with other regional and international organizations working on youth contribute to making the youth-related work of the United Nations system more effective,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;³
2. *Calls upon* Member States to realize the opportunity afforded by the demographic dividend of the largest number of young people ever in the history of humankind, reiterates that the primary responsibility for implementing the World Programme of Action for Youth⁴ lies with Member States, and urges Governments, in consultation with youth, youth-led and youth-focused organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to develop holistic and integrated youth policies, programmes and action plans, including for those who are poor, vulnerable or marginalized, and to address all aspects of youth development, in line with the World Programme of Action and all the internationally agreed development frameworks, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;⁵
3. *Also calls upon* Member States to continue the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, including its 15 interrelated priority areas, as a policy framework with practical guidelines for national action and international support to improve the situation of young people at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels, while taking into account the views of youth and youth-led and youth-focused organizations as part of the effective participation of youth in society;
4. *Further calls upon* Member States to promote gender equality and the empowerment of young women and girls and the full realization of all human rights on an equal footing with young men and boys;
5. *Calls upon* Member States to consider, on a voluntary basis, the set of indicators proposed in the report of the Secretary-General³ for their selection and adaptation in monitoring and assessing the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, paying particular attention to young women and girls and those who are vulnerable or marginalized, including indigenous youth, youth in rural areas, youth with disabilities and young migrants, taking into account the national social and economic circumstances in each country;
6. *Also calls upon* Member States to collect, on a continuing and voluntary basis, reliable, comparable and relevant data, disaggregated by age and sex, to measure progress towards the implementation and monitoring of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and in this regard encourages Member States to engage youth and youth-led and youth-focused organizations in the collection,

³ E/CN.5/2019/5.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

⁵ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

analysis and dissemination of data in the process of assessing progress and evaluating youth policies;

7. *Urges* Member States to ensure that youth issues are adequately addressed in the implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and underlines the importance of closely consulting with and actively involving youth and youth-led and youth-focused organizations in its implementation;

8. *Encourages* Member States to ensure a coherent and mutually reinforcing approach while implementing all relevant agreed frameworks related to youth, including the World Programme of Action for Youth and the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,⁶ in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

9. *Urges* Member States to protect, promote and fulfil the realization and full enjoyment by all young people of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant international human rights instruments, in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth;

10. *Encourages* Member States to consider including youth representatives in their delegations at all relevant discussions in the General Assembly, in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and at relevant United Nations conferences, as appropriate, bearing in mind the principle of gender balance and non-discrimination, and, inter alia, to consider establishing a national youth delegate programme, and emphasizes that youth representatives should be selected through a transparent process that ensures that they have a suitable mandate to represent young people in their countries;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to encourage and promote youth-led and youth-focused organizations through financial, educational and technical support and promotion of their activities;

12. *Urges* Member States to promote the full and effective participation of young people and youth-led and youth-focused organizations in relevant decision-making processes at all levels, including in developing, implementing and monitoring policies, programmes and activities, including those related to the World Programme of Action for Youth and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

13. *Reaffirms* that the strengthening of international cooperation regarding youth, capacity-building, the enhancement of dialogue, mutual understanding and the active participation of young people are crucial elements in efforts towards achieving the eradication of poverty, full employment and social inclusion, and in this regard stresses the importance of promoting access to health-care services, nationally owned social protection and social services as an important instrument for empowering youth;

14. *Calls upon* Member States, in this context, to address the social aspects of youth development with the adoption and/or strengthening of appropriate policies, including fiscal, employment and labour-market policies, and to establish nationally appropriate social protection systems, including floors;

⁶ *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 I, annexes I and II.

15. *Recalls* that access to quality formal and non-formal education, at all levels, including, as appropriate, catch-up and literacy education, including in assessing information, information and communications technologies for those who did not receive formal education, information and communications technologies, extracurricular activities and volunteerism are important factors that enable young people to acquire the relevant skills and to build their capacities, including for employability and entrepreneurial development, and to gain decent and productive work, and calls upon Member States to take the action necessary to ensure that young people have access to such services and opportunities;

16. *Takes note with appreciation* of the increased collaboration among United Nations entities on youth through the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development, calls upon United Nations entities to develop additional measures to support local, national, regional and international efforts in addressing challenges hindering youth development and well-being, and in this regard encourages close collaboration with Member States as well as other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, in particular youth-led and youth-focused organizations;

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to bring the voices of young people to the United Nations system in the areas of participation, advocacy, partnerships and harmonization, inter alia by considering appointing special representatives, envoys or advisors, while working closely with Governments, United Nations entities, civil society, youth organizations, academia and the media, to empower and strengthen the position of young people within and outside of the United Nations system, including by conducting country visits, at the request of the Member States concerned;

18. *Calls upon* donors, including Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to actively contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund in order to facilitate the participation of youth representatives from developing countries in the activities of the United Nations, taking into account the need for greater geographical and gender balance of youth representation, as well as to accelerate the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate action to encourage contributions to the Fund;

19. *Encourages* the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth to continue to work closely with Governments, United Nations entities, civil society, youth organizations, academia and the media, as appropriate, by empowering and strengthening the position of young people within and outside of the United Nations system;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-ninth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, including progress on the achievements and challenges in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, including the linkages to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in consultation with Member States, as well as with the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, taking into account the work done by the United Nations system, including the youth forum of the Economic and Social Council, and encourages the Secretariat to consult, as appropriate, with youth-led and youth-focused organizations.

Decision 57/102
Documents considered by the Commission for Social Development
at its fifty-seventh session

The Commission for Social Development takes note of the following documents that were before it at its fifty-seventh session:¹

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by, for and with persons with disabilities;¹

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes;²

(c) Note by the Secretariat on emerging issues: the empowerment of people affected by natural and human-made disasters to reduce inequality: addressing the differential impact on persons with disabilities, older persons and youth.³

¹ E/CN.5/2019/4.

² A/74/61-E/2019/4.

³ E/CN.5/2019/7.

Chapter II

Organizational matters: future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development

1. The Commission considered the review of its methods of work, under agenda item 2, at its 11th meeting, on 21 February 2019.

Action taken by the Commission

2. At the 11th meeting, on 21 February, the Commission adopted draft resolution [E/CN.5/2019/L.5](#) and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for its final adoption (see chap. I.A, draft resolution I).

3. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

Chapter III

Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

1. The Commission considered agenda item 3 at its 2nd to 11th meetings, on 11 to 14, 19 and 21 February 2019. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development ([E/CN.5/2019/2](#));

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies ([E/CN.5/2019/3](#));

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by, for and with persons with disabilities ([E/CN.5/2019/4](#));

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on policies and programmes involving youth ([E/CN.5/2019/5](#));

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes ([A/74/61-E/2019/4](#));

(f) Note by the Secretariat on emerging issues: the empowerment of people affected by natural and human-made disasters to reduce inequality: addressing the differential impact on persons with disabilities, older persons and youth ([E/CN.5/2019/7](#));

(g) Statements submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council ([E/CN.5/2019/NGO/1-64](#)).

2. At the 2nd meeting, on 11 February, the Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs introduced the documentation under agenda item 3 as a whole.

Action taken by the Commission under agenda item 3 as a whole

3. At its 11th meeting, on 21 February, the Commission agreed to the proposal of the Chair (Senegal) to waive the relevant provision of rule 52 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and proceeded to take action on draft resolutions submitted under agenda item 3 as a whole.

Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

4. At the 11th meeting, on 21 February, the observer for the State of Palestine¹ (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) introduced a draft resolution entitled "Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development" ([E/CN.5/2019/L.4](#)).

5. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted draft resolution [E/CN.5/2019/L.4](#) and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for its final adoption (see chap. I.A, draft resolution II).

6. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States; after the adoption, statements were made by the

¹ In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

representatives of Romania (on behalf of the States members of the European Union and Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and Serbia) and Mexico.

7. Also at the same meeting, on the proposal of the Chair, the Commission took note of documents [E/CN.5/2019/4](#), [A/74/61-E/2019/4](#) and [E/CN.5/2019/7](#) under the agenda item (see chap. I.D, decision 57/102).

A. Priority theme: addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies

8. The Commission considered agenda item 3 (a) at its 2nd to 5th and 7th to 11th meetings, on 11 to 14, 19 and 21 February, during which it held a general discussion of item 3 (a) with agenda item 3 (b) (Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups) at its 2nd, 5th and 8th to 10th meetings, on 11 to 12, 14 and 19 February 2019.

9. At its 2nd meeting, on 11 February, the Commission began its general discussion of agenda items 3 (a) and 3 (b) and heard statements by the representatives of Romania (on behalf of the States members of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine), Benin (on behalf of the African States), Ghana (on behalf of the Economic Community of West African States), Peru, Ghana and Austria, as well as by the observers for the State of Palestine (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Viet Nam (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Trinidad and Tobago (on behalf of the Caribbean Community) and Chile (on behalf of the Group of Friends of Older Persons at the United Nations in New York composed of Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Slovenia, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey and Uruguay).

10. At its 5th meeting, on 12 February, the Commission resumed its general discussion of agenda items 3 (a) and 3 (b) and heard statements by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Romania, Turkmenistan, Mexico, Switzerland, Japan, Paraguay and Malawi, as well as by the observers for Zimbabwe, Cameroon, Chile, the Philippines, Ukraine, Honduras, Thailand, Argentina, Nigeria, the Dominican Republic, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, South Africa, Finland and Zambia.

11. At its 8th meeting, on 14 February, the Commission resumed its general discussion of the items and heard statements by the representatives of the Republic of Moldova, Qatar, Bangladesh, Algeria, India, Benin, El Salvador, Bulgaria, Colombia and Iraq, as well as by the observers for Morocco, Serbia, Kenya, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Costa Rica, Slovenia, Guinea, Turkey, Italy, Sri Lanka, Hungary, Cabo Verde, Maldives and Guatemala.

12. At its 9th meeting, on 14 February, the Commission resumed its general discussion of the items and heard statements by the representatives of Kuwait, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the United States, the Republic of Korea and Brazil, as well as by the observers for Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Sweden, Cuba, Indonesia, Nepal, Jamaica, Viet Nam, Ecuador, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Egypt, Nicaragua, Mali, Azerbaijan, Namibia and the Holy See.

13. At the same meeting, the observer for the Sovereign Order of Malta made a statement.

14. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Doha International Family Institute (also on behalf of the International Federation for Family Development, the World Family Organization and the International Federation for Home Economics), a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Council.

15. At its 10th meeting, on 19 February, the Commission continued its general discussion of the items and heard statements by the representatives of China and Senegal, as well as by the observers for Djibouti, Monaco and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

16. At the same meeting, the representative of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS made a statement.

17. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council: Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd (also on behalf of Casa Generalizia della Società del Sacro Cuore, International Presentation Association, Partnership for Global Justice, Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary and Sisters of Mercy of the Americas), VIVAT International, International Presentation Association, International Movement ATD Fourth World, Pirate Parties International Headquarters, Corporación Cultural Nueva Acrópolis Chile, New Humanity, International Council on Social Welfare, International Longevity Center Global Alliance, Hellenic Association of Political Scientists, Irene Menakaya School Onitsha, International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation, International Association of Independent Journalists, IOGT International, Fraternité Notre Dame and Concepts of Truth.

Panel discussion

18. At its 3rd meeting, on 11 February, the Commission held a high-level panel discussion on the priority theme “Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies”, moderated by the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Following the keynote address by the Co-Director of the World Inequality Lab and of the World Inequality Database at the Paris School of Economics, and Lecturer at Sciences Po, Lucas Chancel, the Commission heard presentations by the following panellists: Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belarus, Andrei Dapkiunas; Under-Secretary of Social Services of Chile, Sebastián Villareal; Director-General of the Department of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of China, Hao Bin; Master Trainer at TRANSFORM, the African regional social protection leadership and transformation curriculum, and former Director of Social Protection of Zambia, Stanfield Michelo; General Secretary of Public Services International, Rosa Pavanelli; and Director of the Conditions of Work and Equality Department of the International Labour Organization (ILO), Manuela Tomei. The Undersecretary of Finance of the Philippines, Gil Beltran, as lead discussant, made a statement. During the ensuing interactive discussion, interventions were made by the representatives of France and Algeria, as well as by the observers for the Netherlands, Morocco and Finland. At the same meeting, the observer for the European Union also made a statement. The representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council also participated in the discussion: Baha’i International, Congregation of our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd and UNANIMA International.

Ministerial forum on social protection

19. At its 4th meeting, on 12 February, the Commission held a ministerial forum on social protection under the item with agenda item 3 (b), moderated by the Chair of the Commission (Senegal), who made an opening statement. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection of Ghana, Cynthia Maamle Morrison; Minister of Development and Social Inclusion of Peru, Liliana del Carmen la Rosa Huertas; Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare of Zimbabwe, Sekai Irene Nzenza; and Minister of the Palestinian Economic Council for the Development and Reconstruction of the State of Palestine, Mohammed Shtayyeh. The Deputy Director of the Social Protection Department of ILO, Valérie Schmitt, and the Deputy Head of the International Issues Unit of the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission, Rudi Delarue, as lead discussants, made statements. During the ensuing interactive discussion, interventions were made by the representative of France and the observers for Argentina and Finland, as well as by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council: International Council on Social Welfare and Save Cambodia.

Interactive dialogue with senior officials of the United Nations system on the priority theme

20. At its 7th meeting, on 13 February, the Commission held an interactive dialogue with senior officials of the United Nations system on the priority theme under the item with agenda item 3 (b), moderated by the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, who made a statement. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Alicia Bárcena, via video link; Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Mounir Tabet; Deputy Executive Secretary for Sustainable Development of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Kaveh Zahedi; and Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support of the United Nations Development Programme, Abdoulaye Mar Dieye, The Special Representative of ILO to the United Nations and Director of the ILO International Office in New York, Vinicius Carvalho Pinheiro, and the Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, Paul Ladd, as lead discussants, made statements. During the ensuing interactive discussion, interventions were made by the representatives of Brazil, Mexico and the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as by the observers for the Syrian Arab Republic, Finland and the Philippines. Comments were made and questions were posed by representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council: Congregations of Saint Joseph, Soroptimist International and the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse.

Action taken by the Commission on agenda item 3 (a)

21. At its 11th meeting, on 21 February, the Commission adopted a draft resolution entitled “Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies” (E/CN.5/2019/L.6), submitted by the Chair (Senegal) on the basis of informal consultations, and recommended it to the Economic and Social Council for its final adoption (see chap. I.A, draft resolution III).

22. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States; after the adoption, statements were made by the representative of Mexico and the observers for Djibouti and the Holy See.

B. Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups

23. The Commission considered agenda item 3 (b) at its 2nd, 4th to 5th and 7th to 11th meetings, on 11 to 14, 19 and 21 February, and held a general discussion of the item with agenda item 3 (a) (Priority theme: Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies) at its 2nd, 5th, and 8th to 10th meetings, on 11 to 12, 14 and 19 February. (For a discussion of the general discussion of the items, see chap. III.A, paras. 9–17.)

Ministerial forum on social protection

24. At its 4th meeting, on 12 February, the Commission held a ministerial forum on social protection under the item with agenda item 3 (a). (For a discussion of the ministerial forum under the items, see chap. III.A, para. 19).

Interactive dialogue with senior officials of the United Nations system on the priority theme

25. At its 7th meeting, on 13 February, the Commission held an interactive dialogue with senior officials of the United Nations system on the priority theme under agenda item 3 (a) with agenda item 3 (b). (For a discussion of the interactive dialogue under the items, see chap. III.A, para. 20).

Action taken by the Commission on agenda item 3 (b)

26. At its 11th meeting, on 21 February, the representative of Portugal introduced a draft resolution entitled “Policies and programmes involving youth” (E/CN.5/2019/L.3), on behalf of Armenia,² Germany,² Portugal, the Republic of Moldova and Senegal. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Austria, Benin, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Djibouti, Estonia, France, the Gambia, Georgia, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

27. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I.D, resolution 57/1).

28. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States.

C. Emerging issues: the empowerment of people affected by natural and human-made disasters to reduce inequality: addressing the differential impact on persons with disabilities, older persons and youth

Panel discussion

29. At its 6th meeting, on 13 February the Commission held a high-level panel discussion on the emerging issue, “The empowerment of people affected by natural

² In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

and human-made disasters to reduce inequality: addressing the differential impact on persons with disabilities, older persons and youth”, moderated by the Global Disability Advisor in the Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice of the World Bank Group, Charlotte MacClain-Nhlapo. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Head of Office for Social Development at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mesbah Ansari Dogahneh; Director of Global Policy, Influencing and Research in Action on Disability and Development International, Mosharraf Hossain; President and Chief Executive Officer of the Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies, Marcie Roth; and President of AARP, Lisa Marsh Ryerson. The Chief Adviser to the President of the Republic of Turkey and President of the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities, Abdullah Eren, and the Executive Director of the Sustainable Fish Farming Initiative and a member of the National Youth Council of Nepal, Jolly Amatya, as lead discussants, made statements. During the ensuing interactive discussion, interventions were made by the representatives of France, Brazil and Switzerland, as well as by the observers for Argentina, the Philippines, Morocco, Finland, the Syrian Arab Republic and Ukraine. The observers for the European Union and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, as well as the representative of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, made statements. The representatives of the following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council also participated in the dialogue: HelpAge International, Soroptimist International, and Pirate Parties International Headquarters. A statement was later made by the observer for Turkey.

Chapter IV

Programme questions and other matters

1. The Commission considered agenda item 4 (a) and (b) at its 9th meeting, on 14 February 2019.

A. Proposed programme plan for 2020

2. At the 9th meeting, on 14 February, the Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made a statement.

B. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

3. At the 9th meeting, on 14 February, the Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development reported on the work of the Institute.

Action taken by the Commission

Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

4. At its 9th meeting, on 14 February, the Commission decided to nominate the following four candidates for a four-year term to begin after their confirmation by the Economic and Social Council and on a date no sooner than on 1 July 2019 and expiring on 30 June 2023: Hanif Hassan Ali Al Qassim, Ha-Joon Chang, Shalini Randeria and Imraan Valodia (see chap. I.C, decision 57/101).

5. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to nominate Saraswathi Menon for an additional two-year term to begin after confirmation by the Economic and Social Council and on a date no sooner than on 1 July 2019 and expiring on 30 June 2021 (see chap. I.C, decision 57/101).

Chapter V

Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission

1. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda at its 11th meeting, on 21 February 2019. It had before it the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission ([E/CN.5/2019/L.1/Rev.1](#)).
2. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-eighth session (see chap. I. B, draft decision).

Chapter VI

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session

1. At the 11th meeting, on 21 February 2019, the Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur of the Commission, Fabrício Araújo Prado (Brazil), introduced the draft report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session as contained in document [E/CN.5/2019/L.2](#).
2. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report and entrusted the Secretariat, in consultation with the Rapporteur, with its finalization.

Chapter VII

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission for Social Development held its fifty-seventh session at United Nations Headquarters on 7 February 2018 and from 11 to 21 February 2019. The Commission held 11 meetings (1st to 11th).
2. At the 2nd meeting, on 11 February, the Vice-Chair, Sama Salim Poules Poules (Iraq), opened the regular session.
3. At the same meeting, the newly elected Chair, Cheikh Niang (Senegal) made a statement and presided over the rest of the meeting.
4. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council (Belarus), on behalf of the President of the Council at its 2019 session, the Vice-President of the General Assembly (Qatar), on behalf of the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, and the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed the Commission.
5. Statements were also made by representatives of civil society and youth.

B. Attendance

6. The session was attended by representatives of 41 States members of the Commission, observers for other States Members of the United Nations, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. The list of participants is contained in document [E/CN.5/2019/INF/1](#).

C. Election of officers

7. In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and Council decision 2002/210, the Commission, immediately following the closure of a regular session, would hold the first meeting of its subsequent regular session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chair and other members of the Bureau.
8. At the 1st meeting of its fifty-seventh session, held on 7 February 2018, the Commission elected, by acclamation, Sama Salim Poules Poules (Iraq) as Vice-Chair of the Commission for the fifty-seventh session. At the same meeting, the Commission postponed the election of the remaining four officers, on the understanding that upon nomination by their respective groups, candidates would be allowed to participate in the meetings of the Bureau held to prepare for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission.
9. At the 2nd meeting of its fifty-seventh session, on 11 February 2019, the Commission elected, by acclamation, the following officers for the fifty-seventh session:

Chair:

Cheikh Niang (Senegal)

Vice-Chairs:

Fabício Araújo Prado (Brazil)

Helene Inga Stankiewicz Von Ernst (Iceland)

Carolina Popovici (Republic of Moldova)

10. At the same meeting, the Commission designated the Vice-Chair of the Commission, Fabrício Araújo Prado (Brazil), as Rapporteur for the session.

D. Agenda and organization of work

11. At its 2nd meeting, on 11 February, the Commission adopted the provisional annotated agenda and proposed organization of work as contained in document [E/CN.5/2019/1](#) and [E/CN.5/2019/1/Corr.1](#). The agenda read as follows:

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:
 - (a) Priority theme: addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies;
 - (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;
 - (iv) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;
 - (v) Family issues, policies and programmes;
 - (c) Emerging issues: the empowerment of people affected by natural and human made disasters to reduce inequality: addressing the differential impact on persons with disabilities, older persons and youth
4. Programme questions and other matters:
 - (a) Proposed programme plan for 2020;
 - (b) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.
5. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission.
6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session.

12. At the same meeting, the Commission approved its organization of work, as contained in annex I to document [E/CN.5/2019/1](#) and with the corrections contained in document [E/CN.5/2019/1/Corr.1](#), on the understanding that further adjustments would be made, if necessary, during the course of the session.

E. Documentation

13. The list of documents before the Commission at its fifty-seventh session is contained in the annex to the present report.

Annex

List of documents before the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-seventh session

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title/description</i>
A/74/61-E/2019/4	3 (b)	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes
E/CN.5/2019/1	2	Provisional annotated agenda and proposed organization of work
E/CN.5/2019/1/Corr.1	2	Corrigendum to the provisional annotated agenda and proposed organization of work
E/CN.5/2019/2	3	Report of the Secretary-General on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development
E/CN.5/2019/3	3 (a)	Report of the Secretary-General on addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies
E/CN.5/2019/4	3 (b)	Report of the Secretary-General on accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by, for and with persons with disabilities
E/CN.5/2019/5	3 (b)	Report of the Secretary-General on policies and programmes involving youth
E/CN.5/2019/7	3 (c)	Note by the Secretariat on emerging issues: the empowerment of people affected by natural and human-made disasters to reduce inequality: addressing the differential impact on persons with disabilities, older persons and youth
E/CN.5/2019/8	4	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
E/CN.5/2019/9	4	Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
E/CN.5/2019/L.1/Rev.1	5	Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development
E/CN.5/2019/L.2	6	Draft report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session
E/CN.5/2019/L.3	3 (b)	Draft resolution on policies and programmes involving youth

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title/description</i>
E/CN.5/2019/L.4	3	Draft resolution on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development
E/CN.5/2019/L.5	2	Draft resolution on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development
E/CN.5/2019/L.6	3 (a)	Draft resolution on addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies
E/CN.5/2019/NGO/1-64 ¹	3 (a) and 3 (b)	Statements by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

¹ Available at www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/united-nations-commission-for-social-development-csod-social-policy-and-development-division/csod57/csod57-ngos-written-statements.html.