United Nations A/75/L.93*

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
26 May 2021

Original: English

Seventy-fifth session
Agenda item 111
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 74/176 of 18 December 2019, which builds on resolution 68/192 of 18 December 2013, in which it was decided to appraise, from within existing resources, on a four-year basis, starting at its seventy-second session, the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action in order to assess achievements, gaps and challenges, including in the implementation of the relevant legal instruments, and to convene a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons at its seventy-sixth session and no later than December 2021,

Recalling also its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, by which it adopted the Global Plan of Action,

Recalling further its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[1] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[2]

Reaffirming its resolution 72/1 of 27 September 2017, by which it adopted the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Recalling its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

1. *Decides* that the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in

* Reissued for technical reasons on 7 June 2021.
[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[2] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

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Persons[3] will be held on Monday, 22 November, and Tuesday, 23 November 2021, and will consist of an opening plenary meeting on 22 November from 10 to 11 a.m., plenary meetings on 22 November from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on 23 November from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5.30 p.m., and a closing plenary meeting at 5.30 pm, as well as two consecutive interactive panel discussions on 22 November in the afternoon;

2. *Also decides* that:

(a) The opening plenary meeting will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session, the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as well as an eminent person actively engaged in the fight against trafficking in persons and a representative of civil society, at least one of whom should be a survivor and both of whom are to be identified by the President of the General Assembly;

(b) The plenary meetings will hear statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly, the list of speakers will be established in accordance with the rules of procedure and established practices of the Assembly and the time limits for these statements will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States;

(c) The final format of the high-level meeting, in-person, virtual or hybrid, will be determined by October 2021 by the President of the General Assembly based on an assessment of the health conditions and in consultation with Member States;

3. *Further decides* that the proceedings of the high-level meeting will be webcast, and encourages the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to give the highest visibility to the high-level meeting;

4. *Further decides* that the organizational arrangements for the interactive panel discussions to be held on 22 November 2021 in the afternoon, each to be chaired by a Member State at the invitation of the President of the General Assembly, after consultations with regional groups, will be as follows:

(a) Interactive panel discussion 1, to be held from 3 to 4.30 p.m., will address the theme “The Global Plan of Action and enduring trafficking issues and gaps including, inter alia, the trafficking of women and children, particularly girls, for the purpose of sexual exploitation”;

(b) Interactive panel discussion 2, to be held from 4.30 to 6 p.m., will address the theme “The Global Plan of Action and emerging issues, such as trafficking in persons in the context of COVID-19, and the misuse of information and communication technologies to facilitate trafficking, including trafficking of children for the purpose of sexual exploitation on the Internet”;

(c) The Chairs of the interactive panel discussions will present summaries of the discussions at the closing plenary meeting, followed by final remarks by the President of the General Assembly;

(d) In order to promote interactive and substantive discussions, participation in each panel discussion will include Member States, observers,[4] representatives of United Nations organizations and entities, and representatives of international,

[3] Resolution 64/293.

[4] Note by the Secretariat entitled “List of non-Member States, entities, and organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly” (A/INF/75/3/Rev.1).

regional and subregional organizations, as well as of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, the private sector and the media;

5. *Invites* Member States and all observers of the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level;

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider including in their delegations to the high-level meeting members of national human rights institutions, representatives of law enforcement, parliamentarians, representatives of civil society active in combating trafficking in persons, survivors of trafficking in persons and representatives of the private sector;

7. *Invites* all relevant United Nations system entities, in particular the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, including programmes, funds, specialized agencies and regional commissions, as well as relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, to participate in the high-level meeting;

8. *Invites* interested representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the high-level meeting;

9. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may participate in the high-level meeting, including its panel discussions, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, with due regard for gender parity, to submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis[5] and to bring the list to the attention of the Assembly for a final decision by the Assembly on participation in the high-level meeting;

10. *Further requests* the President of the General Assembly to hold open, transparent and inclusive intergovernmental negotiations with all Member States, through two co-facilitators to be appointed by the President, with a view to producing a short and concise political declaration for adoption at the opening plenary of the high-level meeting, on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons;

11. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, to organize, no later than August 2021, and to preside over two meetings of an informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing, attended by representatives of Member States, all observers of the General Assembly, national human rights institutions compliant with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles),[6] non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector, welcomes their contribution to the process, and requests the President to prepare a summary of the hearing;

[5] The list will include proposed as well as final names. The general basis of any objections, if requested by one or more States Members of the United Nations or States members of the specialized agencies, will be made known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the requester.

[6] Resolution 48/134, annex.

12. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations entities, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private sector entities and other relevant stakeholders to consider supporting the participation of representatives from developing countries, including representatives of non-governmental organizations from those countries, in order to ensure the broadest possible participation, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in this regard, where applicable;

13. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the meetings, taking into account the duration of the meetings, the identification of the eminent person and the representative from civil society to speak at the opening plenary meeting and the identification of Chairs for the interactive panel discussions, bearing in mind the level of representation as well as equitable geographical representation;

14. *Encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to continue to contribute to the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which was established by the Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons.