



General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 December 2021

Original: English

Seventy-sixth session

Agenda item 20 (a)

Sustainable development: towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Prathma Uprety (Nepal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 20 (see [A/76/533](#), para. 3). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 8th meeting, on 22 November 2021. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary record.¹

II. Consideration of draft resolution [A/C.2/76/L.45](#)

2. At its 8th meeting, on 22 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21" ([A/C.2/76/L.45](#)), submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Nadja Micael (Eritrea), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution [A/C.2/76/L.12](#).

3. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution [A/C.2/76/L.45](#) had no programme budget implications.

4. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/76/L.45](#) (see para. 7).

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 12 parts, under the symbols [A/76/533](#), [A/76/533/Add.1](#), [A/76/533/Add.2](#), [A/76/533/Add.3](#), [A/76/533/Add.4](#), [A/76/533/Add.5](#), [A/76/533/Add.6](#), [A/76/533/Add.7](#), [A/76/533/Add.8](#), [A/76/533/Add.9](#), [A/76/533/Add.10](#) and [A/76/533/Add.11](#).

¹ See [A/C.2/76/SR.8](#).



5. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the European Union (on behalf of its member States, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Turkey) and the United States of America.

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution [A/C.2/76/L.45](#), draft resolution [A/C.2/76/L.12](#) was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

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

Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ Agenda 21,² the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,³ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁴ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)⁵ and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,⁶ as well as all relevant resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of 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,

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the resulting processes for the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and for the realization of sustainable development, and recognizing also the uneven progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and all other internationally agreed development goals and commitments necessary to achieve sustainable development,

Reaffirming the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions, and

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

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

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

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ Resolution 66/288, annex.

reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,

Recalling the convening of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the General Assembly (Sustainable Development Goals Summit) on 24 and 25 September 2019, and the adoption of its political declaration,⁷ and taking note of the 2019 *Global Sustainable Development Report* as an important input to the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly,

Recognizing that digital technologies and the unprecedented scale, spread and speed of change brought about by them can be harnessed to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Stressing the need, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to benefit from and build on experiences, success stories, best practices, challenges and the lessons learned from the previous agreements on sustainable development,

Stressing also the importance of overcoming silos and seeking innovative and coordinated approaches in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard taking note of the actions and initiatives implemented by the United Nations system entities,

Stressing further the need to determine gaps, obstacles, synergies and challenges in the implementation of commitments and instruments in the sustainable development field, in a coherent and integrated manner, and with a view to pursuing and achieving policy coherence as well as identifying new opportunities and emerging challenges for international cooperation on the path towards sustainable development,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,⁸ the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,⁹ the New Urban Agenda¹⁰ and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,¹¹ as well as major outcome documents in relation to countries in special situations,

Noting with great concern the severe negative impact on human health, safety and well-being caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as the severe disruption to societies and economies and the devastating impact on lives and livelihoods, and that the poorest and most vulnerable are the hardest hit by the pandemic, reaffirming the ambition to get back on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by designing and implementing sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to help to reduce the risk of and build resilience to future shocks, crises and pandemics, including by strengthening health systems and achieving universal health coverage, and recognizing that equitable and timely access for all to safe, quality, effective and affordable COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics are an essential part of a global response based on unity, solidarity, renewed multilateral cooperation and the principle of leaving no one behind,

⁷ Resolution [74/4](#), annex.

⁸ Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

⁹ See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

¹⁰ Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

¹¹ Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

Noting with concern that COVID-19 has exacerbated existing challenges in the international community's efforts, especially for developing countries, to implement sustainable consumption and production, and may further reverse progress towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, including Sustainable Development Goal 12, and therefore stressing the importance of promoting sustainable consumption and production in the context of sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21";¹²

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system;¹³

3. *Reaffirms* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", and also reaffirms, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,¹⁴ all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;

4. *Recognizes* that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development constituted a milestone that ushered in major international instruments and commitments that guide progress in closing development gaps within and among developed and developing countries, including the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹⁵ the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹⁶ and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa¹⁷ (the Rio conventions), as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5. *Urges* the full and effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and all other internationally agreed development goals and commitments in the economic, social and environmental fields, including the Millennium Development Goals and those under the three Rio conventions, building on their contributions, best practices, challenges and lessons learned, in order to support the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

6. *Recognizes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development builds on issues included in Agenda 21, and encourages further efforts aimed at strengthening international cooperation to address gaps in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7. *Acknowledges*, in this regard, that sustainable consumption and production practices can be cost-efficient and effective ways to achieve economic development, reduce environmental impacts and advance human well-being, and urges the need to further Sustainable Development Goal 12, in order to contribute to the achievement of all Goals;

¹² [A/76/212](#).

¹³ [A/74/72-E/2019/13](#).

¹⁴ Resolution [70/1](#).

¹⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

8. *Recognizes* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development adopted, among other commitments on sustainable consumption and production, the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns,¹⁸ and that both the Framework and its multi-partner trust fund are tools for action on sustainable consumption and production, recalls the launch of the “One Plan for One Planet” strategy 2018–2022, and in this regard reiterates the need for such initiatives to continue to share best practices and provide other forms of technical assistance in the shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns, including by providing tools and solutions for policy design and implementation;

9. *Also recognizes* that unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are key drivers of natural resource depletion, climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and malnutrition, and therefore recommits to making fundamental changes in the way that societies produce and consume goods and services through the transition to sustainable economic models that promote sustainable consumption and production patterns as well as through policies, frameworks, partnerships and instruments that improve resource efficiency and the sustainable management of natural resources, reduce waste, promote life-cycle approaches, enable consumers to make sustainable consumption choices, mainstream sustainability practices and increase resilience across all sectors of the economy, which will contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 12, and in this regard decides to extend the mandate of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns until 31 December 2030, and encourages the implementation of the Framework of Programmes, in accordance with target 12.1 of Goal 12;

10. *Further recognizes* the important role of the private sector in utilizing sustainable practices, including for multinational corporations and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises which may face greater challenges in enhancing resource efficiency;

11. *Acknowledges* the link between plastic waste and sustainable consumption and production patterns, and encourages further efforts at all levels to reduce, reuse and recycle plastics and to address through innovative approaches different types of plastic waste, including marine plastic litter;

12. *Urges* the international community to continue to support developing countries in strengthening their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production;

13. *Encourages* the further strengthening of the science-policy interface and of the means of implementation from all sources and at all levels, including a revitalized and enhanced Global Partnership, as well as by supporting innovative approaches to sustainability science and emphasizing cross-disciplinary partnerships;

14. *Requests* the United Nations system to further mainstream and integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout its work, and to continue to exchange experiences and lessons learned in this regard and to step up its efforts at all levels in continued support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

15. *Encourages* regional and subregional organizations to continue to promote sustainable development in their respective regions by, inter alia, promoting peer learning and cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as well

¹⁸ [A/CONF.216/5](#), annex.

as effective linkages among global, regional, subregional and national processes, as appropriate, to advance sustainable development;

16. *Strongly encourages* further accelerated actions and multi-stakeholder partnerships at all levels, including with the United Nations system and international financial system, to advance innovative pathways to achieving sustainable consumption and production, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/1 of 15 March 2019,¹⁹ as part of a sustainable, inclusive and resilient COVID-19 response and recovery and accelerated progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, thereby creating job opportunities, promoting sustainable business practices and fostering more sustainable and stable global supply chains;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, with a particular focus on the state of play with regard to sustainable consumption and production and the application and promotion thereof, taking into account the impacts of, response to and recovery from COVID-19, and to recommend concrete actions to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in this regard;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-seventh session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21”.

¹⁹ [UNEP/EA.4/Res.1](#).