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Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

State of Palestine:* draft resolution

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [43/53](#) of 6 December 1988, [54/222](#) of 22 December 1999, [62/86](#) of 10 December 2007, [63/32](#) of 26 November 2008, [64/73](#) of 7 December 2009, [65/159](#) of 20 December 2010, [66/200](#) of 22 December 2011, [67/210](#) of 21 December 2012, [68/212](#) of 20 December 2013, [69/220](#) of 19 December 2014, [70/205](#) of 22 December 2015, [71/228](#) of 21 December 2016, [72/219](#) of 20 December 2017 and [73/232](#) of 20 December 2018 and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

Recalling also the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹ and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention,² acknowledging that they are the primary international, intergovernmental forums for negotiating the global response to climate change, expressing determination to address decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation, recognizing that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible international cooperation aimed at accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions and addressing adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change, and noting with concern the significant gap between the aggregate effect of parties' mitigation pledges, in particular their nationally determined contributions, as appropriate, and aggregate emission pathways,

Recalling further the Paris Agreement, which, pursuant to article 2, paragraph 2, thereof, will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but

* On behalf of the States that are members of the Group of 77 and China, taking into account also the provisions of General Assembly resolution [73/5](#) of 16 October 2018.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

² See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.



differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances,

Acknowledging that action on adaptation to climate change is an urgent priority and a global challenge faced by all countries, in particular developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, recognizing that the current need for adaptation is significant and that greater levels of mitigation can reduce the need for additional adaptation efforts, and bearing in mind that the provision of scaled-up financial resources should aim to achieve a balance between adaptation and mitigation,

Welcoming the convening of the twenty-fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Santiago, Chile, from 2 to 13 December 2019,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,³ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁴ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),⁵ the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁶ 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”,⁷ the outcomes of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,⁸ the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016,⁹ the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014,¹⁰ the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,¹¹ the Mauritius Declaration¹² and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the

³ Resolution 55/2.

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 60/1.

⁷ Resolution 66/288, annex.

⁸ *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

⁹ Resolution 70/294, annex.

¹⁰ Resolution 69/137, annex II.

¹¹ *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

¹² *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,¹³ the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,¹⁴ the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,¹⁵ the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,¹⁶ and the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,¹⁷

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,

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

Noting with concern the findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty,

Noting also with concern the findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems, and noting with serious concern its findings relating to the impacts of climate change on land ecosystems, particularly forests, taking into account that the most significant impact of climate change on forests could be increased vulnerability to fire due to longer fire seasons and drought, compounded when combined with deforestation and forest degradation,

Noting further with concern the findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the ocean and cryosphere in a changing climate, and noting with serious concern its findings relating to the impacts of climate change on the oceans and the cryosphere, to which coastal environments, small island developing States, polar areas and high mountains are particularly exposed, including declining polar sea ice, sea level rise, more frequent extreme sea level events and an increasing rate of ocean warming and acidification with

¹³ Ibid., annex II.

¹⁴ Resolution 69/15, annex.

¹⁵ Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

¹⁶ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

¹⁷ Resolution 71/256, annex.

consequent impacts on marine ecosystems, and that, even with major adaptation efforts, residual risks and associated losses are projected to occur,

Taking note of the Green Climate Fund, reiterating the objectives and guiding principles of the Fund, including a gender-sensitive approach in its process and operations, and stressing its goal of ensuring efficient access to its resources through simplified approval procedures and enhancing readiness support, which will help to deliver outcomes in developing countries so as to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help them to adapt to the impacts of climate change,

Welcoming the pledges made, as a part of the current formal replenishment process, at the Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General in September 2019 and the high-level pledging conference of the Green Climate Fund, held in Paris in October 2019, totalling __ billion, and emphasizing the importance of having a timely, well-managed and successful process so that the Fund continues to be one of the main channels to enable the flow of financial resources to developing countries under the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

Recalling the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,¹⁸ and acknowledging that all types of forests contribute substantially to climate change mitigation and adaptation,

Noting that forests are addressed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and noting also article 5 of the Paris Agreement,

Noting also the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation at all levels among the parties to and secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,¹⁹ and the Convention on Biological Diversity,²⁰ as appropriate, while respecting their individual mandates,

Noting further the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to addressing the challenge of, inter alia, climate change, within its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and stakeholders,

Recalling its resolution [71/312](#) of 6 July 2017, entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action”,

Recognizing that, in undertaking its work, the United Nations should promote the protection of the global climate for the well-being of present and future generations of humankind,

Recalling the entry into force on 1 January 2019 of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer,²¹ welcoming its ratification by 87 countries and one regional economic integration organization, while encouraging further ratifications as soon as possible, and recalling the Thirtieth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, held from 5 to 9 November 2018 in Quito,

Noting with appreciation the interactive dialogue on Harmony with Nature convened by the President of the General Assembly with the overall theme “Mother Earth approach in the implementation of education and climate action”, held on 22 April 2019 in commemoration of International Mother Earth Day,

¹⁸ See resolution [71/285](#).

¹⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

²¹ [UNEP/OzL.Pro.28/12](#), annex I.

Noting the contribution of the International Civil Aviation Organization to global efforts to combat climate change, and noting also the contribution of the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

1. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing an increase in such impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, land degradation, sea level rise, coastal erosion, ocean acidification and the retreat of mountain glaciers, further threatening food security, water availability and livelihoods, and efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions and achieve sustainable development, recognizes the substantial risks posed by climate change to health, and emphasizes in this regard that mitigation of and adaptation to climate change represent an immediate and urgent global priority;

2. *Welcomes* the Paris Agreement²² and its early entry into force, on 4 November 2016, urges all parties to the Agreement to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹ that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible, in order to ensure its universality, and highlights the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development²² and the Paris Agreement;

3. *Recalls* that the Paris Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change, increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production, and making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development;

4. *Welcomes* the nationally determined contributions submitted to date, and recalls that the regular updating of such contributions will reflect the highest possible level of ambition, in the light of different national circumstances, and provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding, in accordance with the relevant decisions;

5. *Notes with concern* that the nationally determined contributions presented thus far by the parties to the Paris Agreement are not sufficient to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and urges parties to increase their ambition and communicate this in new or updated nationally determined contributions by 2020;

6. *Welcomes* the Paris Agreement work programme adopted at the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement;

²² Resolution [70/1](#).

7. *Emphasizes* the need for collective efforts to promote sustainable development in its three dimensions in an innovative, coordinated, environmentally sound, open and shared manner;

8. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for action at all levels, to enhance efforts to build resilience through, inter alia, the sustainable management of ecosystems, and to build resilience to reduce the impacts and costs of natural disasters;

9. *Recognizes* that enhanced access to international climate finance is important to support mitigation and adaptation efforts in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and also recognizes the ongoing efforts in this regard;

10. *Acknowledges* the work undertaken under the auspices of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action,²³ and encourages non-party stakeholders to scale up their efforts to address and respond to climate change;

11. *Welcomes* the Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General on 23 September 2019, as well as the multi-partner initiatives and commitments presented during the Summit that aim to accelerate the achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement, and also welcomes the integration of the voice of youth in the first-ever Youth Climate Summit;

12. *Also welcomes* the convening by the President of the General Assembly of the high-level meeting during the seventy-third session of the General Assembly on the issue of the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind in the context of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

13. *Reiterates* the resolve of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its decision 1/CP.19,²⁴ to accelerate the full implementation of the decisions constituting the agreed outcome pursuant to its decision 1/CP.13²⁵ and to enhance ambition in the pre-2020 period in order to ensure the highest possible mitigation efforts under the Convention by all parties;

14. *Welcomes* the further acceptance or ratification of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol²⁶ by 132 parties,²⁷ and urges parties to the Protocol to deposit their instruments of acceptance in order to ensure the prompt entry into force of the Amendment, taking into account that a total of 144 instruments of acceptance are required for the entry into force of the Amendment;

15. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;²⁸

16. *Recognizes* the importance for all countries of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow-onset events, and the role of sustainable development in reducing the risk of loss and damage, and in that regard looks forward to the outcome of the review of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and

²³ See [FCCC/CP/2016/10/Add.1](#).

²⁴ See [FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1](#).

²⁵ See [FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1](#).

²⁶ See [FCCC/KP/CMP/2012/13/Add.1](#).

²⁷ As at 19 September 2019.

²⁸ [A/74/207](#), sect. I.

Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, in the context of relevant consecutive decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and article 8 of the Paris Agreement;

17. *Notes with appreciation* the hosting by the Government of Chile of the twenty-fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the second session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Santiago, Chile, from 2 to 13 December 2019, and urges parties to increase their ambition on mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation in accordance with the principles of the Convention and the Paris Agreement;

18. *Urges* Member States, taking into account that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by climate change owing to gender inequalities and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods, to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources towards achieving the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues, and stresses the need to address the challenges posed by climate change that affect women and girls in particular, including through the implementation of the first gender action plan adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-third session,²⁹ with a view to advancing towards the goal of mainstreaming a gender perspective into climate action;

19. *Recalls* the action plan for integrating sustainable development practices into Secretariat-wide operations and facilities management submitted by the Secretary-General³⁰ and endorsed in resolution 72/219, and requests the Secretary-General to report on its implementation and improvements achieved to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

20. *Notes* the ongoing work and potential of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, established for the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner, and recalls decision 2/CP.23 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Platform's purpose and functions³¹ and decision 2/CP.24 of the Conference of the Parties on the Platform's governance and further operationalization;³²

21. *Invites* the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind".

²⁹ FCCC/CP/2017/11/Add.1, decision 3/CP.23, annex.

³⁰ A/72/82.

³¹ See FCCC/CP/2017/11/Add.1.

³² See FCCC/CP/2018/10/Add.1.