



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
15 October 2020

Original: English

Seventy-fifth session

Second Committee

Agenda item 25 (a)

Operation activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Guyana:* draft resolution

Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide strategic policy orientations and operational modalities for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations development system,

Expressing its resolve to use this review as the main instrument to provide guidance to the United Nations development system on its operational activities for development in order to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in a coherent and integrated manner and ensure effective delivery of support and services to programme countries in line with the mandates of the entities of the United Nations development system, and the objectives of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, building upon a United Nations development system that is more strategic, accountable, transparent, coherent, collaborative, efficient, effective and results-oriented, in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs,

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,

* On behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.



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,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,¹ and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change² that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling its resolution [69/283](#) of 3 June 2015 on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, and its resolution [71/256](#) of 23 December 2016, annex, on the New Urban Agenda, as well as all other outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing the vital role played by these conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives which have contributed to our understanding of, and our actions to overcome, the challenges to improving human life in different parts of the world,

Recognizing that there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development, and that the development work of the entities of the United Nations development system, in accordance with their respective mandates, through their support for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, contributes to peacebuilding and sustaining peace, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their national ownership, plans and priorities,

Recognizing that education is a main driver of development and contributes to the achievement of all internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the development of human potential, the eradication of poverty and the fostering of greater understanding among peoples,

Recalling its resolutions on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system³ and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system⁴ and other relevant resolutions,⁵

Reaffirming its resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions [2019/15](#) of 17 July 2019 and [2020/23](#) of 22 July 2020, and previous resolutions⁶ and the role of the Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those

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

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

³ Resolutions [44/211](#), [47/199](#), [50/120](#), [53/192](#) 5 December 1998, [56/201](#), [59/250](#) and [62/208](#).

⁴ [67/226](#) and [71/243](#).

⁵ [52/203](#), [52/12 B](#), [64/289](#), [73/248](#), [74/238](#) and [74/297](#).

⁶ Economic and Social Council resolutions [2013/5](#), [2014/14](#) and [2015/15](#).

policy orientations are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with the present resolution and relevant General Assembly resolutions,⁷

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,⁸

Also taking note of the reports of the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the work of the Development Coordination Office, including on the operational, administrative and financing aspects of the activities of the Office,⁹

Recognizing the central role of the United Nations system in catalysing and coordinating the global response to control and contain the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), especially for those countries dependent on commodities, remittances or the tourism and travel services which have been particularly affected by the initial measures taken to contain the spread of COVID-19,

I

General guidelines

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

2. *Underscores* that there is no “one size fits all” approach to development, and reiterates the call to the United Nations development system to continue to enhance its efforts, in a flexible, timely, coherent, coordinated and integrated manner, and to continue to pursue full alignment of operational activities for development at the country level with national development plans and strategies to strengthen national ownership and leadership at all stages of the operational activities of the United Nations development system in order for the entities to respond to national development needs and priorities in accordance with their mandates, while ensuring the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders at the national level;

3. *Recognizes* that the strength of the United Nations development system lies in its legitimacy, at the country level, as a neutral, objective and trusted partner for all countries;

4. *Stresses* that national Governments have the primary responsibility for their countries’ development and for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to effectively integrate such assistance into their development processes;

5. *Recognizes* that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global and regional programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of all countries, supported by an enabling economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and

⁷ 48/162, 50/227, 57/270 B, 61/16, 65/285, 68/1 and 72/305.

⁸ A/73/63-E/2018/8, A/74/73-E/2019/4 and A/75/79-E/2020/55.

⁹ E/2019/62 and E/2019/62/Corr.1 and E/2020/54.

financial systems, and enhanced global economic governance, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership;

6. *Reaffirms* the need to continue to strengthen the United Nations development system to further enhance its coherence and efficiency, as well as its capacity to address effectively and in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations the full range of development challenges of our time, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,¹⁰ and that it must continue to adapt and respond to evolving development challenges and opportunities for development cooperation so that no one is left behind;

7. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the United Nations development system, takes note of the challenges on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, and looks forward to the full and timely implementation of all reform mandates as contained in relevant General Assembly resolutions;¹¹

8. *Reiterates* the call to the entities of the United Nations development system, within their respective mandates, to continue to mainstream the Sustainable Development Goals in their strategic planning documents and their work at all levels, taking into account that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development and should therefore continue to be the highest priority for and underlying objective of the operational activities of the United Nations development system;

9. *Recognizes* that the individual entities of the United Nations development system have specific experience and expertise, derived from and in line with their mandates and strategic plans, and stresses in this regard that improvement of coordination and coherence at all levels should be undertaken in a manner that recognizes their respective mandates and roles and enhances the effective utilization of their resources and their unique expertise,

10. *Reiterates* the call to the United Nations development system to continue to support developing countries in their efforts to achieve internationally agreed development goals and their development objectives, and requests the system to address, within existing resources and mandates, the special challenges facing the most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, the need for special attention to countries in conflict and post-conflict situations and countries and peoples under foreign occupation, as well as the specific challenges facing the middle-income countries, in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda¹² and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

11. *Urges* the United Nations development system to continue to enhance its support for the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,¹³ towards a transition to the new decade, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,¹⁴ and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,¹⁵ as well as the African Union Agenda 2063 and the New Partnership for Africa's Development,¹⁶ all of which are integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

¹⁰ Resolution 70/1.

¹¹ Resolutions 72/279 and 74/297.

¹² Resolution 69/313, annex.

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

¹⁴ Resolution 69/15, annex.

¹⁵ Resolution 69/137, annex II.

¹⁶ A/57/304, annex.

Development, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system to integrate and mainstream them fully into their operational activities for development;

12. *Reaffirms* that the continued promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through investing in the development of women and girls and promoting their economic and political participation and equal access to economic and productive resources and education, is of fundamental importance and has a multiplier effect for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development;

13. *Recognizes* the positive role that sustainable development can play in mitigating drivers of conflicts, disaster risks, humanitarian emergencies and complex emergencies, and also recognizes that a comprehensive whole-of-system response, including greater cooperation and complementarity among development, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian action and sustaining peace, is fundamental to most efficiently and effectively addressing needs and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals;

14. *Underscores* the importance of results-based management, within and across entities and at all levels of the United Nations development system, as an essential element of accountability that can, inter alia, contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and requests the United Nations development system and its individual entities to continue to strengthen results-based management, focusing on long-term development outcomes, developing common methodologies for planning and reporting on results, including on agency-specific activities, and on inter-agency and joint activities, improving integrated results and resources frameworks, where appropriate, and enhancing a results culture in the entities of the United Nations development system;

15. *Notes* the importance of the contribution of the United Nations development system with the aim of supporting government efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, based on full respect for human rights, including the right to development, as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights, and stresses in this regard that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated;

II

Contribution of United Nations operational activities for development

16. *Reiterates* the call to the United Nations development system to continue to support countries, upon their request, in the acceleration of the implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially in the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, including by focusing on addressing the gaps and challenges in development, including those identified by voluntary national reviews, bearing in mind that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible, global in nature and universally applicable, taking into account the different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities;

17. *Stresses* the importance of continuing to mainstream the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as appropriate, into the work of each entity of the United Nations development system, in line with their respective mandates and respecting the intergovernmentally agreed decisions of their governing bodies, with a view to ensuring delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

18. *Calls upon* United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to continue to update and build upon their contribution to the implementation of the

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in their strategic plans and similar planning documents, in close consultation with and for presentation to their respective governing bodies for approval, and in this regard requests each individual entity to elaborate on how it plans to further engage in coherent and integrated support, as called for in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

19. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, at the request of national Governments, to improve their support to the building, development and strengthening of national, subnational and local capacities, to support development results at the country level and to promote national ownership and leadership, in line with national development policies, plans and priorities, taking into account their respective mandates and bearing in mind their comparative advantages;

20. *Also calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, at the request of national Governments, to improve their support with regard to strengthening the means of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, as contextualized in the 2030 Agenda and Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, including through capacity-building, policy advice, technical assistance, normative support, support to national institutions, the catalysing of partnerships and the leveraging of science, technology and innovation, in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs;

21. *Recognizes* that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions is central to and the overarching goal of implementing the 2030 Agenda, takes note with concern of the rise in global poverty, and requests the United Nations development system to strengthen actions to accelerate progress on poverty eradication;

22. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations development system, in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic: (a) to achieve a sustainable and resilient recovery and build back better, put people at the centre of the response, protect the planet and achieve prosperity; (b) to support and work with programme countries in implementing rapid solutions and catalysing partnerships, including with financial institutions and the private sector for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the post-COVID-19 era; (c) to analyse the lessons learned from the response plans to the pandemic at the national and global levels and to identify gaps and challenges in order to better prepare and provide assistance, upon request, for possible future-related shocks;

23. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations development system to adopt and mainstream a more climate- and environment-responsive approach into their programmes and strategic plans, where appropriate, as well as in cooperation frameworks, or equivalent planning framework, and their policy advice to programme countries, in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs, and urges the entities of the United Nations development system to fulfil the pledges they made during the 2019 Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General, recognizing the urgency for action to mitigate and adapt to climate change;

24. *Emphasizes* the need for country-driven enhanced capacity-building for sustainable development, in this regard calls for the strengthening of technical and scientific cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and reiterates the importance of human resources development, including training, the exchange of experience and expertise, knowledge transfer and technical assistance for capacity-building, which involves strengthening institutional capacities, including planning, management, monitoring and evaluation capacities;

25. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to strengthen its focus in supporting programme countries in developing national capacities for development planning, disaggregated data collection and analysis, sectoral data development plans, implementation, reporting, monitoring and evaluation, with an emphasis on the effective integration of the economic, environmental and social dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard recognizes that the resources of the United Nations development system, including the knowledge base and expertise of all resident and non-resident agencies, should be available for access by developing countries;

26. *Reaffirms* the central role of Governments in contributing to the work of the United Nations development system, while recognizing the importance of the United Nations development system in increasing the capacity to engage in results-oriented innovative national, regional and global partnerships, with relevant stakeholders, encourages the United Nations development system to intensify its collaboration with these stakeholders, bearing in mind the provisions of resolution [73/254](#) of 20 December 2018, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system, in consultation with programme countries, to share knowledge and best practices in partnership approaches with a view to improving transparency, coherence, due diligence, accountability and impact;

27. *Recognizes* that relevant stakeholders, including international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector, can positively support national development efforts and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and requests the United Nations development system to continue supporting programme countries to leverage robust partnerships, in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs, with a view to achieving the scale and pace of progress needed to realize the Goals by 2030;

28. *Reiterates* that the United Nations development system should enhance its support to South-South and triangular cooperation, at the request and with the ownership and leadership of developing countries, through a system-wide approach, taking into account that South-South cooperation is a complement to, rather than a substitute for, North-South cooperation, in line with the Nairobi¹⁷ and Buenos Aires¹⁸ outcome documents of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in 2009 and 2019, respectively;

29. *Reiterates* the call to the entities of the United Nations development system, in full compliance with their respective mandates, to continue to enhance coordination with humanitarian assistance and peacebuilding efforts at the national level in countries facing humanitarian emergencies and in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, and in this regard:

(a) *Re-emphasizes* that in countries facing humanitarian emergencies there is a need to work collaboratively to move beyond short-term assistance towards contributing to longer-term development gains, including by engaging, as appropriate, in joint risk analysis, needs assessments, practice response and a coherent multi-year time frame, with the aim of reducing need, vulnerability and risk over time, in compliance with international law and in line with resolution [46/182](#) of 19 December 1991 and the annex thereto and in accordance with national plans and priorities, stressing that this should not adversely affect resources for development;

(b) *Re-emphasizes* that development is a central goal in itself, and that in countries in conflict and post-conflict situations the development work of the entities of the United Nations development system can contribute to peacebuilding and

¹⁷ Resolution [64/222](#), annex.

¹⁸ Resolution [73/291](#), annex.

sustaining peace, in accordance with national plans, needs and priorities and respecting national ownership, and stresses in this regard the need to improve coordination and synergy to maximize the impacts, results and effectiveness of support for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, stressing that this should not adversely affect resources for development;

30. *Recognizes* progress made in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into the United Nations development system's integrated policy and operational support to Governments, and requests resident coordinators and United Nations country teams, upon the request of host Governments and in consultation with them, to further enhance disaster risk reduction in United Nations planning and programming documents, including the common country analysis, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework,¹⁹ in line with national development policies, priorities and needs; to mobilize resources, leverage partnerships and assign technical resources to elaborate recovery programmes, in collaboration with host Governments and United Nations entities, to ensure a full, inclusive and sustainable post-disaster recovery, with emphasis on the three dimensions of sustainable development; to incorporate disaster preparedness and risk management into post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes, with a view to meeting the development needs of Governments at the country level, using opportunities during the recovery phase to develop capacities that reduce disaster risk in the short, medium and long term; and to increase support to Governments in the collection of data on disaster loss, the production of risk knowledge, the conduct multi-hazard risk assessments, the development, financing and implementation of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, the strengthening of synergies between disaster risk reduction, climate change mitigation and adaptation, the management of financial and economic risks and sustainable development policies, strategies and investments;

31. *Calls upon* the United Nations Development system to significantly expand support and assistance to programme countries, upon their request, in developing their national capacities to promote education for sustainable development, including remote learning and to achieve the related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals;

32. *Recognizes* that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development, and in this regard calls upon the relevant entities of the United Nations Development system to ensure the mainstreaming of the SAMOA Pathway and issues related to small island developing States in the work of the United Nations development system, including at the national, regional and global levels, and to continue to support small island developing States, upon their request, in addressing their particular challenges, as outlined in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, by strengthening technical assistance initiatives, policy guidance and programme development, in line with their respective mandates;

33. *Calls upon* the United Nations Development System to coordinate with the relevant institutions, funds and facilities to review their financing instruments in order to maximize accessibility, effectiveness, transparency, quality and impact, recognizing that the complex funding environment presents challenges for small island developing States, and to develop additional specific financial solutions for small island developing States that holistically address their socioeconomic and environmental vulnerabilities and ensure that eligibility parameters do not limit their access to financing for development;

¹⁹ Or equivalent planning framework.

34. *Also calls upon* the United Nations development system to continue to develop their support to middle-income countries in all their diversity, and recognizes that a gradual shift from a traditional model of direct support and service provision towards a greater emphasis on integrated high-quality policy advice, capacity development and support for the leveraging of partnerships and financing is needed;

35. *Urges* the United Nations Sustainable Development Group to develop a joint framework of collaboration with multilateral development banks to improve synergies at the regional and country levels, with specific attention paid to middle-income countries, as set out in the road map for financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 2019–2021;

36. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to strengthen the quality of its partnership and coordinated regional efforts in Africa and to align its support for the region to the specific needs and priorities of Africa, with a special focus on, inter alia, improving data and statistics, the implementation of the African Union-United Nations Framework on the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, enhancing economic transformation and diversification, harnessing the demographic dividend, leveraging new technologies for inclusive development, accelerating energy transition and promoting investment in climate change mitigation and adaptation in Africa;

37. *Recognizes* that the progress made is not enough for landlocked developing countries to achieve the targets of the Vienna Programme of Action and sustainable development, in this regard welcomes the Political Declaration of the High-level Midterm Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for the Landlocked developing countries for 2014–2024,²⁰ and takes note of the adopted road map for the accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in the remaining five years as a mechanism to strengthen the coordinated support of the United Nations development system to the landlocked developing countries and to ensure better practical results on the ground, in line with national development policies, plans and priorities, and calls upon the United Nations Development system to support the resident coordinators and the United Nations country teams in the landlocked developing countries, and in collaboration with relevant United Nations entities and other international organizations, to assist them in accelerating the practical implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and in addressing the socioeconomic response and recovery of COVID-19;

38. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to continue to update and build upon its contribution to, inter alia, underscoring the importance of regional integration to greater transport, energy and digital connectivity in the landlocked developing countries, addressing cross-border collaboration with transit countries, improving trade facilitation and the smooth flow of goods in transit, and increasing competitiveness and the potential to join regional value chains and enhance structural transformation, and stresses that the revamping of the regional assets of the United Nations development system and a strengthened United Nations response at the regional level should support the special needs of landlocked developing countries;

III

Funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

39. *Recognizes* that the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires a more sustainable funding approach, and stresses the need for adequate quantity and quality of voluntary funding to continue to support the United Nations operational activities for development, as well as the need to improve funding

²⁰ Resolution 74/15.

practices to make voluntary funding more predictable, flexible, effective and efficient, less earmarked and better aligned with the national priorities and plans of programme countries, as reflected in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework,²¹ as well as with the strategic plans and mandates of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, in order to enable the United Nations development system to work at all levels in a coherent, coordinated and, where appropriate, integrated manner, reducing duplication and increasing impact;

40. *Stresses* that core resources are the bedrock of the United Nations operational activities for development, owing to their untied nature, and in this regard, expresses concern at the continuing and accelerated decline in the amount of core contributions to the entities of the United Nations development system in recent years;

41. *Acknowledges* the efforts by developed countries to increase resources for development, including commitments by some developed countries to increase official development assistance, expresses concern that many countries still fall short of their official development assistance commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance, as well as the target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent for least developed countries, and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

42. *Reiterates the call for* the enhancement of accountability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness in the funding of the United Nations operational activities for development in order to incentivize contributions by donor countries and other contributors, and calls upon United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to publish timely, harmonized and verifiable data on funding flows;

43. *Urges* donor countries, and encourages other contributors to maintain and substantially increase their core contributions to the United Nations development system, in particular its funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and to contribute on a multi-year basis, in a sustained and predictable manner;

44. *Notes* that non-core resources represent an important contribution to the overall resource base of United Nations operational activities for development as a complement to, and not a substitute for, core resources, and that they should support and be aligned with programme priorities regulated by intergovernmental bodies and processes, and also notes that non-core resources pose their own challenges by potentially increasing transaction costs, fragmentation, unproductive competition and overlap among entities and/or providing disincentives for pursuing system-wide priorities, strategic positioning and coherence;

45. *Urges* Member States and other contributors providing non-core contributions, to the extent practicable, to make them more flexible and aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework,²² as well as the strategic plans of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, to reduce transaction costs by, inter alia, streamlining and harmonizing requirements related to reporting, monitoring and evaluation, to assign resources, as much as possible, at the beginning of the annual planning period, while encouraging multi-year duration of implementation of development-related activities, and to give priority to pooled, thematic and joint funding mechanisms applied at all levels and limit earmarking to broader, sector-specific activities in accordance with the national priorities of programme countries;

²¹ Or equivalent planning framework.

²² Or equivalent planning framework.

46. *Urges* the entities of the United Nations development system to continue enhancing the transparency and accountability of inter-agency pooled funding mechanisms, as well as to continue developing well-designed pooled funds, as a complement to agency-specific funds, that reflect and support common objectives and cross-cutting issues for United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and urges the entities of the United Nations development system to enhance their participation, where appropriate, in such funding mechanisms;

47. *Also urges* the entities of the United Nations development system, through their governing bodies, to take concrete steps to address on a continuous basis the decline of core contributions and the growing imbalance between core and non-core resources;

48. *Urges* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to mobilize resources for their operational activities for development to complement core resources by encouraging flexible, adequate, predictable and less earmarked funding, including through well-designed, transparent and accountable funding mechanisms;

49. *Urges* the United Nations development system to mobilize multiple funding sources and deepen partnerships with other relevant stakeholders, with a view to diversifying potential sources of funding, especially core funding, for operational activities for development, in alignment with the provisions of the present resolution;

50. *Urges* the entities of the United Nations development system to further explore innovative funding approaches to catalyse additional resources, and encourages in this regard the entities of the United Nations development system to share knowledge and best practices on innovative funding, taking into account the experiences of other multilateral institutions, and to include this information in their regular financial reporting;

51. *Recognizes* the need to further support the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework,²³ including through incentives for joint resource mobilization and programming, and stresses the need for efforts leading towards an integrated funding approach at the country level, where applicable, while paying due respect to different organizational mandates and modalities;

52. *Expresses its serious concern* at the fact that the share of expenditure for operational activities for development of the United Nations system in the least developed countries is declining, urges the United Nations development system to continue to prioritize allocations to least developed countries, while reaffirming that the least developed countries, as the most vulnerable group of countries, need enhanced support to overcome structural challenges that they face in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and requests the United Nations development system to provide assistance to graduating countries in the formulation and implementation of their national transition strategies and to consider country-specific support for graduated countries for a fixed period of time and in a predictable manner;

53. *Welcomes* the funding compact, and encourages all Member States and entities of the United Nations development system to contribute to its full and effective implementation, taking note of the progress made thus far in the fulfilment of the funding compact commitments by all parties;

54. *Emphasizes* that core funding provides United Nations entities the flexibility to allocate funds to priority areas in their strategic plans, including underfunded areas that will be further exacerbated by the economic fallout from the

²³ Or equivalent planning framework.

COVID-19 pandemic, and in this regard stresses the urgency of meeting the funding compact commitment of 30 per cent core resources by 2023;

55. *Stresses* the need to fully operationalize the three funding sources set out in paragraph 10 of its resolution 72/279, emphasizing that adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system remains a concern and is essential to delivering a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response in accordance with national needs and priorities, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure independent and transparent management of the dedicated trust fund established for the reinvigorated resident coordinator system;

56. *Commends* the establishment and the operationalization of an online portal to reflect real-time contributions and expenditures related to the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, and urges the expansion of such a portal to reflect the funding status of the entire United Nations development system in order to ensure further transparency;

IV

Governance of the United Nations operational activities for development

57. *Continues to stress* that the governance architecture of the United Nations development system must be more efficient, transparent, accountable and responsive to Member States and able to enhance coordination, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the operational activities for development within and among all levels of the United Nations development system in order to enable system-wide strategic planning, implementation, reporting and evaluation to better support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

58. *Reiterates* that the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework is the most important and strategic instrument for the planning and implementation of United Nations development activities in each country and for supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, that it is to be prepared and finalized in full consultation and agreement with host Governments, in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs, and emphasizes the importance for the United Nations country teams of all entities to prepare and finalize their individual country programme documents in accordance with the agreed priorities of the Framework and in consultation and agreement with host Governments;

59. *Reiterates* the request to the resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to fully implement the dual reporting models, particularly annually to the host Government, on the results achieved in the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework,²⁴ and linked to national development results to ensure the accountability of host Governments, including reporting on expenditure of the entities undertaking activities within the host countries to national authorities to enable countries to more effectively coordinate in-country development assistance while promoting programme alignment and reducing redundancy;

60. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue regular follow-up, monitoring and reporting on the work of regional assets of the United Nations development system in support of the 2030 Agenda with a view to enhancing transparency and results-based management at the regional level in order to ensure that the longer-term reprofiling and restructuring of the regional assets of the United Nations are addressed

²⁴ Or equivalent planning framework.

on a region-by-region basis and in accordance with the region's specific needs and priorities;

61. *Acknowledges* the ongoing efforts by the United Nations development system entities, under the guidance of their respective governing bodies, to formulate and improve their upcoming strategic plans with a stronger focus on actions, results, coherence and progress, while respecting their respective roles and mandates, in accordance with the needs and priorities of programme countries;

62. *Reaffirms* that the Economic and Social Council, through its operational activities for development segment, serves as a platform to ensure accountability for and the acceleration of system-wide performance and results in relation to the 2030 Agenda, as well as to provide guidance and overall coordination of the United Nations development system;

63. *Emphasizes* the central role of the General Assembly in developing key system-wide strategic policy orientations and operational modalities for the United Nations development system;

64. *Recalls* the decision by the Secretary-General to regularly brief the Economic and Social Council in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in order to enhance further the transparency of the activities of the Board and the United Nations Sustainable Development Group to ensure their effective interaction with and improve their responsiveness to States, while respecting their working methods, particularly with regard to the implementation of cross-system issues;

65. *Requests* the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group to continue to present a timely, comprehensive, evidence-based, analytical and more detailed performance report on an annual basis, including on progress made and on the operational, administrative and financial aspects of the activities of the Development Coordination Office, to the Economic and Social Council at its operational activities for development segment, while noting that the Office assumes managerial and oversight functions of the resident coordinator system under the leadership of an Assistant Secretary-General and with collective ownership of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group;

V

Functioning of the United Nations development system

66. *Reaffirms* the need to move towards integrated action in response to the integrated and indivisible nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while stressing the importance of strengthening national ownership and leadership by building on existing efforts to operate as a system within and among countries and at the regional and global levels, as well as enhancing the coordination, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of operational activities for development, to address the needs and priorities of programme countries and in line with their respective national plans and strategies;

67. *Invites* the United Nations development system, governing bodies of the United Nations funds and programmes and other multilateral organizations, including the World Bank and international financial institutions, to fully support the preparation of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and to integrate the next programme of action into their strategic plans and annual work programmes, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates, and also invites these organizations to participate fully in reviews of the next programme of action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

68. *Requests* the Secretary-General to have all resident coordinators in place no later than 31 December 2021, in accordance with the provisions of section V of resolution 71/243, resolution 72/279 and resolution 74/297 of 11 August 2020, and while noting the progress made, and also requests the Secretary-General to have an updated and rolling pool of possible resident coordinator candidates with diverse expertise and skill sets and to take further measures to ensure geographical representation among the resident coordinators, with a view to improving representation of developing countries, and gender balance;

69. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the entities of the United Nations development system to recruit qualified nationals of the programme countries for the staffing of the resident coordinator office and offices of the entities of the United Nations development system, and in particular to appoint professional and higher categories of staff and national professional officers, in accordance with the relevant mandates of the entities of the system, and to inform concerned programme countries in a timely manner;

70. *Requests* the Development Coordination Office to duly inform the Governments of programme countries when the tenure of the resident coordinator is coming to an end and, further, to select and appoint the new resident coordinator in a timely manner, in consultation with host programme countries, taking into account the general profile desired by host Governments;

71. *Recognizes* that the presence of the entities of the United Nations development system at the country level should be tailored to meet the specific challenges and needs of programme countries, and reaffirms that the focus of the resident coordinator system should remain sustainable development, with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions as its overarching objective, consistent with the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda and in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework²⁵ and national leadership and ownership;

72. *Reaffirms* the central role and the importance of the active and full participation of national Governments in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework,²⁶ in order to enhance national ownership and achieve full alignment of operational activities with national priorities, challenges, planning and programming, and in this sense continues to encourage national Governments to consult with relevant stakeholders, including civil society and non-governmental organizations;

73. *Recognizes* the progress made by the reinvigorated resident coordinator system and the reconfigured United Nations country teams, and requests resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to strengthen meaningful consultation with national Governments and relevant stakeholders, including civil society and non-governmental organizations, in agreement with national Governments, with a view to promoting national ownership and ensuring that the development and implementation of all United Nations planning and programming documents, with a special emphasis on the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework,²⁷ are fully aligned with national development needs and priorities and national programme planning and development processes;

74. *Recognizes* the important role of the resident coordinator system in supporting government efforts, including to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by improving the efficiency and effectiveness of operational activities

²⁵ Or equivalent planning framework.

²⁶ Or equivalent planning framework.

²⁷ Or equivalent planning framework.

for development at the country level through the promotion of strategic support for national plans and priorities, enhancing sustainable development results, thus making operations more coherent and efficient, and reducing costs at the country level;

75. *Calls on* the United Nations development system to support the resident coordinators in the least developed countries, and in collaboration with relevant United Nations entities and other international organizations, to assist them in mainstreaming the next programme of action into development planning at the country level in a coordinated and cohesive manner;

76. *Invites* all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, led by the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, to extend necessary support in a coordinated manner to the countries aspiring to graduate in developing their graduation and smooth transition strategies, and calls upon all entities of the United Nations development system to ensure that graduation-related capacity development activities are coordinated and demand-driven and to encourage an ambitious and flexible approach to help Governments to mitigate the impact of graduation;

77. *Takes note of* the provisions of resolutions [72/279](#) and [74/297](#) on the revamping of the regional assets of the United Nations development system;

78. *Recognizes* the contribution of the regional economic commissions and the regional teams of the United Nations development system, and underlines the need to continue to enhance and strengthen them in order to address development challenges and to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, recognizing the specificities of each region and bearing in mind that no one size fits all;

79. *Notes* the ongoing implementation of the multi-country offices reviews, and reiterates the request to the Secretary-General to conduct regular monitoring, reporting and follow-up, including to the annual operational activities for development segment, with a view to considering the adjustments necessary to ensure the delivery of sustainable and effective development resources and services to enable countries served by multi-country offices to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

80. *Requests* the United Nations development system to further simplify and harmonize agency-specific programming instruments, business practices, processes and reporting in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework²⁸ by taking necessary steps at the headquarters level, as appropriate;

81. *Underscores* that entities within the United Nations development system should operate according to the principle of mutual recognition of best practices in terms of policies and procedures and inter-agency planning, with the aim of facilitating active collaboration across agencies and reducing transaction costs for Governments and collaborating agencies;

82. *Requests* the United Nations development system to review and update, as appropriate, the applicable United Nations results-based management guiding documents in full consultation with programme countries and to ensure that new guidelines provide for more effective results-based management approaches across the United Nations development system;

83. *Reiterates the call* to the United Nations development system to further its synergies and inter-agency efforts to maximize the use of the offices and resources on

²⁸ Or equivalent planning framework.

the ground and to avoid duplications and overlaps, including between the United Nations development system and national institutions, while also strengthening support for capacity-building to national institutions in order to improve their use and sustainability, while acknowledging the progress made in this regard;

84. *Requests* the United Nations development system to continue to support all programme countries, regardless of which modality for the delivery of assistance they prefer to adopt, in accordance with their national development plans and priorities;

VI

Follow-up, monitoring and reporting

85. *Reaffirms* that the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires a United Nations development system that works in a coordinated and coherent manner, while preserving each entity's mandate and role and leveraging each entity's expertise, and in this regard, calls upon the governing bodies of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies to support the system-wide implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

86. *Notes* the advances made in the implementation of resolution [71/243](#) and [72/279](#) and calls upon the United Nations development system to address the remaining challenges, based on lessons learned and taking into account the provisions of the present resolution;

87. *Reaffirms* that all entities of the United Nations development system carrying out operational activities for development should continue to align their planning and activities, including through their governing bodies where applicable, to take appropriate action consistent with each entity's mandate, role and expertise as well as country priorities for the full implementation of the present resolution;

88. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the analytical quality of system-wide reporting on funding, performance and programme results for the United Nations operational activities for development, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard calls for the publication of timely, reliable, verifiable and comparable system-wide and entity-level data, definitions and classifications;

89. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present to the Economic and Social Council a report in 2021 on system-wide implementation of the provisions of the present resolution, including progress made and results achieved, and on that basis invites the Economic and Social Council to exchange views on lessons learned and challenges and to propose to the General Assembly overall recommendations to contribute to strengthening the oversight of States over the United Nations development system and to guide the overall progress in the full implementation of the provisions of the present resolution through the annual General Assembly follow-up resolution on the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

90. *Requests* the Development Coordination Office to prepare written responses to the main concerns raised by States at the operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council, regarding the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution, in order to better inform the deliberations on the annual General Assembly follow-up resolution on the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

91. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive analysis of the implementation of the present resolution, including an addendum

taking into account the recommendations provided by the operational activities for development segment of the Council, as well as of the unfulfilled mandates contained in Assembly resolutions [67/226](#) of 21 December 2012 and [71/243](#) and in the subsequent follow-up resolutions.
