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Enhancing the role of parliaments in accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

The General Assembly,

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,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and grounded in international law and the principle of leaving no one behind,

Recognizing the essential role of national parliaments and parliaments at other levels, where they exist, through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of their commitments,

Recalling its resolution [76/270](#) of 21 June 2022 on interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in which it recognized the actions and contributions of parliaments at the national, regional and global levels, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships, in support of the accelerated achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030,



Highlighting the importance of women's full, equal and meaningful participation in parliaments, including in leadership positions and in decision-making at all levels, and the importance for parliaments to mainstream a gender perspective in their work,

Acknowledging the role and responsibility of parliaments with regard to national plans and strategies aimed at fully implementing the 2030 Agenda, as well as in ensuring greater transparency and accountability at both the national and the global levels,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution [2017/23](#) of 7 July 2017, in which the Council encouraged all Governments to inform and engage their parliaments in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, while noting that some parliaments have taken a proactive role in their implementation,

Taking into account the first Global Parliamentary Meeting on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, held by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the House of Representatives of Indonesia in September 2021, on "Turning the challenges of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic into opportunities for parliaments to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals", and looking forward to further engagement to bring parliaments together at a critical time to support the achievement of the Goals,

Noting with great concern the severe negative impact on human health, safety and well-being caused by the 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,

Emphasizing that success in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions depends on the creation of enabling environments at all levels,

Mindful that rapid technological change includes new and powerful tools that can help to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda, and that the spread of information and communications technologies and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human development and bridge all digital divides, among and within countries, including the gender digital divide, and recognizing that national parliaments, among others, play an important role in addressing the impact, opportunities and challenges of rapid technological change,

Welcoming the work carried out, at the request of Member States, by the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and other international organizations of parliamentarians in support of national parliaments around the world in mobilizing action towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,¹ the Sendai Framework for

¹ Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,² the Paris Agreement³ and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,⁴

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of parliamentary involvement in renewed commitment to unity, solidarity and multilateral cooperation to support an inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and accelerating the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, leaving no one behind, while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

2. *Encourages* parliaments to assess the contribution of their countries' existing national legal frameworks to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, acknowledging that the Goals are integrated and indivisible and that policy coherence is key in achieving the 2030 Agenda as a whole;

3. *Encourages* Member States to promote the engagement and support of parliaments in the follow-up and review processes of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in the preparation of voluntary national reviews, in order to ensure and strengthen national ownership and accountability;

4. *Welcomes* the practice of including parliamentarians as members of national delegations to major United Nations meetings and events, as appropriate, including the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and invites Member States to continue this practice in a more regular and systematic manner, and with due consideration given to achieving gender balance within such delegations;

5. *Acknowledges* that a strong and constructive relationship between parliaments and independent oversight bodies is important for improving the effectiveness of efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages parliaments to ensure that their oversight mechanisms are well structured and have appropriate resources and equipment, as well as access to expertise and resources, to ensure qualified monitoring and evaluation of national development plans and strategies aimed at fully implementing the 2030 Agenda;⁵

6. *Encourages* public awareness of parliamentary processes and opportunities for public engagement in monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

7. *Underscores* the importance of analytical support to parliamentarians on the respective government budget proposal to enable effective financing for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

8. *Encourages* Member States, including their parliaments, to place gender equality and the empowerment of women at the centre of their efforts to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and promote the full, equal and meaningful participation and representation of women in parliaments and their processes, including by considering the promotion of legislation and parliamentary working methods that are gender-responsive and prevent all forms of violence and discrimination against women;

² Resolution 69/283, annex II.

³ Adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

⁴ *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.

⁵ Resolution 70/1.

9. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure that laws, mechanisms and the parliament buildings are inclusive and accessible to encourage and empower persons with disabilities to participate in political and public life;

10. *Recognizes* the value and the contribution of youth to the full and successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and therefore recommends that parliaments seek ways to achieve the full, equal and meaningful participation of youth in parliamentary processes, as appropriate, related to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

11. *Encourages* communication among parliaments, including within the Inter-Parliamentary Union, to work closely to support national, regional and international efforts to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to promote the leadership role of parliaments in accelerating the achievement of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals in a balanced and integrated manner, reaffirming the commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – and encourages the United Nations to work with Member States, upon their request, on strengthening the institutional capacity of parliaments in this regard;

13. *Recommends* inter-parliamentary cooperation, including through the Inter-Parliamentary Union, to inspire ambitious collective plans, enhance mutual learning and sharing of best practices, enhance knowledge-sharing and awareness-raising among parliamentarians and generate momentum to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
